



MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

I am pleased to welcome the publication of "Indonesia and the United Nations Security Council: 2007-2008."

The book is designed to shed light on Indonesia's perspectives on the issues considered by the Security Council during that period, as well as provide a glimpse into her overall contribution to the work of the Council. This was Indonesia's third time of seating in the Council; its immediate preceding appearance being in 1995 - 1996.

In comparison with Indonesia's last tenure in the Security Council, the world is now more complex. By 2007-2008, issues or conflicts that were not obvious 10 years earlier had either taken centre-stage, or become more pronounced and complicated. The Council's workload was not only heavier; the nature of the conflicts confronting it had become more complex.

Procedurally, of great interest to Indonesia was transparency. Some argue that increased transparency in the Security Council will compromise its effectiveness because it would be harder to reach decisions quickly. But Indonesia does not think that those two objectives are necessarily opposed to each other, because, for Indonesia, effectiveness is a function of credibility.

During its tenure, Indonesia has thus always promoted transparency, a greater sense of ownership within the structure of the Council, and, at the same time, a unified Security Council. Indonesia positioned itself as the voice of moderation and a bridge and consensus builder.

Indonesia's track record during its tenure on the Council speaks for itself in terms of her ability and certain qualities that suggest the country can offer real contributions to the Council's representativeness.

The objective of this book is to show how Indonesia carried out its responsibilities in the Council during its latest opportunity to serve, from January 2007 through December 2008, as a nation committed to principles that, beyond its own national interest, are in the broader interest of peoples all over the world.

Finally, it is my hope that this publication will also expand the body of knowledge about the activities of the United Nations Security Council.

Jakarta, 12 April 2011

Minister for Foreign Affairs
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the UN (2007 - 2009)


Dr. R.M. Marty M. Natalegawa

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CHAPTER I ASIA

1. Afghanistan

**Statement at 5641st meeting, Tuesday, 20 March 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in Afghanistan)**

At the outset, I would like to express to you, Mr. President, my delegation's appreciation for convening this debate on the situation in Afghanistan. I should also like to welcome in our midst Mr. Massimo D'Alama, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy.

We thank Mr. Tom Koenigs, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, for his comprehensive briefing. We also appreciate the participation in this debate of Mr. Antonio Maria Costa, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and we are grateful for his important presentation.

Afghanistan has been undergoing a steady transformation since it emerged from armed conflict. Progress has been visible in the economic and political spheres. The launch of the Afghanistan Compact and the successful holding of presidential elections in October 2004 marked major achievements in the country.

Yet, at this moment, optimism about peace, stability and economic development in Afghanistan seems to be seriously challenged by the increase in the activities of insurgent forces in some parts of the country. My delegation is concerned about the harmful effects of those activities on the Government's capacity to provide security and basic services to the Afghan people and to ensure the enjoyment of their fundamental freedoms and basic rights.

In that regard, we commend various initiatives proposed by the Afghan Government with a view to enhancing security in the country. However, we believe that all parties – including the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) – should continue to take all necessary measures to prevent civilian casualties in their operations.

Considering the fact that, as indicated in the Secretary-General's report (S/2007/152), the revitalization of the insurgency has also been caused by adverse socio-political factors such as popular alienation, the monopolization of power and the marginalization of those outside the dominant social and political groups, we hold the view that civic measures that include reconciliation, participatory decision-making and inclusive political processes are also of critical importance for the achievement of sustainable peace in the country.

My delegation also attaches great significance to the national unity programmes – including at the village level – that the Afghan Government is currently promoting. We hope that those programmes can help to promote national ownership through the participatory contributions and inclusive involvement of all segments of Afghan society.

My delegation welcomes the positive developments that the country has achieved in its economic sector. We hope that the decline in the inflation rate and the increase in development expenditures will promote further economic progress. Afghanistan's trade relations

with key countries in the region, which amounted to more than \$2.5 billion in 2006, are also an encouraging achievement. We commend the increase in Afghanistan's economic cooperation with regional partners, and we believe that its enhancement will help to integrate the country into the regional dynamics and the global economy.

My delegation also underlines the significance of regional initiatives in the political and security fields that include Afghanistan. Close cooperation with Pakistan is of particular importance, given the presence of cross-border elements in the security of both countries.

With regard to border cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan, my delegation sees some opportunities for both countries to develop joint programmes along the border. On the basis of our experience in advancing border diplomacy with neighbouring countries, the establishment of a jointly administered economic zone and the joint development of traditional commerce involving local merchants at the borders have proved viable.

My delegation welcomes the establishment of the Tripartite Commission, which involves a military component from Afghanistan and Pakistan, in addition to ISAF. We hold the view that similar mechanisms aimed at promoting political dialogue should be considered.

My delegation is also concerned about the difficulties that the narco-economy has brought to the efforts of the people and the Government of Afghanistan to reconstruct their country. The 2007 UNODC survey predicts that an increase in the main poppy-growing areas of the southern provinces could result in an overall increase in opium poppy cultivation in 2007.

We fully share the views of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the UNODC Executive Director as to the importance of introducing alternative sustainable livelihoods to the community as part of the overall efforts to decrease opium cultivation. The successful story of the Golden Triangle in South-East Asia could be taken as one lesson learned.

With regard to UNAMA, my delegation applauds the role that the Mission has played in supporting the reconstruction of Afghanistan. We welcome UNAMA's intention to increase the number of its provincial offices. In our view, that step will help to build the capacity of local governments to provide basic services and promote good governance.

UNAMA's contribution to the rebuilding of Afghanistan will remain pivotal in the future. Considering the magnitude of the challenges that Afghanistan continues to face, my delegation supports the continuing role of UNAMA in assisting the Afghan people and Government in achieving their goals.

**Statement at 5760th meeting, Monday, 15 October 2007, 10:20 a.m.
(The situation in Afghanistan)**

Allow me to join other speakers in expressing our appreciation to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Tom Koenigs, for his briefing on the latest developments in Afghanistan.

Since the launch of the Bonn Agreement in 2001, peace and stability have been taking root in Afghanistan. Progress in the political

and socio-economic sectors of the country has been notable. Nonetheless, violence threatens to disrupt those attainments. Suicide bombing and violent attacks are increasingly common in Afghanistan. The increase in violent attacks within the country in the past several months, we understand, has undermined confidence in the future and prevented access by the Government and aid organizations to many districts.

My delegation believes that addressing the security challenges is a matter of urgency in order to prevent Afghanistan from sliding back into conflict. In that regard, we recognize the importance of the measures taken by the Afghan National Army, in collaboration with the International Security Assistance Force, in responding to the insurgency activities. We are also encouraged by the efforts to augment the Afghan National Police.

While recognizing the significance of the effective integration of a civilian-military strategy within the security plan for Afghanistan, Indonesia attaches great importance to respect the protection of civilians and the principles of international human rights and humanitarian laws whenever security operations are carried out in the country.

Indonesia also believes that the military approach cannot fully address the root causes of the re-emergence of the insurgency. We therefore underline the importance of political dialogue and reconciliation involving all factions in Afghanistan. We look forward to further progress in the implementation of the Action Plan on Peace, Reconciliation and Justice. We hold the view that it is important to help every single Afghan embrace a new Afghanistan. It is important to find ways and means to prevent them from turning to militancy. It is also important to include them in the political, social and economic processes at all levels.

Achieving a secure and stable Afghanistan becomes more daunting with the continued presence of the narco-economy. The sharp increase in opium production in 2007 has exacerbated the security condition in Afghanistan. It poses a grave threat to both reconstruction and nation-building in the country.

Since players in the narco-economy work across borders, cooperation between Afghanistan and its neighbours in counter-narcotics operations is very important. Accordingly, Indonesia welcomes the signing of a trilateral agreement between Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan in June 2007. Indonesia also believes that the international community should support the Afghan-led plan to address that problem, going beyond eradication efforts.

As Afghanistan is steadily embracing democracy, the need to strengthen the institutional foundation of the democratic transition in the country remains vital. Additional efforts must be exerted in order to ensure that such institutions as the Anti-Corruption Commission established by President Karzai deliver results.

The key to a robust democracy in Afghanistan is the adoption of the electoral law by the end of 2007. The adoption of such a law by the Afghan Government and the National Assembly will be instrumental to the upcoming cycle of presidential elections in the country. My delegation underlines in that regard the importance of continued support and assistance from the international community for the

institutional strengthening and capacity-building of democratic institutions in Afghanistan.

A peaceful and stable environment is important to Afghanistan in order for it to achieve internal sustainability. We welcome in that regard Afghanistan's commitment to contributing to regional security and prosperity through concrete steps, including its accession to the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Afghanistan-Pakistan peace jirga and the participation of President Karzai in the summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. The inauguration of a transit bridge between Afghanistan and Tajikistan in August 2007 has both symbolic and substantive meaning.

The continued engagement of the international community with Afghanistan remains vital. Thus Indonesia welcomes the convening of the high-level meeting on Afghanistan in New York on 23 September 2007. My delegation is hopeful that the reaffirmation of support by delegations participating in the meeting will bring peace and stability to Afghanistan.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not say a few words on the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). The role of UNAMA becomes more important with the increasing number of challenges to Afghan security and reconstruction efforts. As the Mission's engagement has been reinforced by resolution 1746 (2007), there is in our view an urgent need for ensuring that UNAMA and other international actors engaged in Afghanistan have the mandate and resources needed to fulfil the required tasks and to move the country's development in a positive direction. My delegation wishes to reiterate its full support for UNAMA and its work in Afghanistan.

**Statement at 5851st meeting, Wednesday, 12 March 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in Afghanistan)**

I wish to begin by expressing our appreciation to Mr. Guéhenno, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, for presenting the latest report of the Secretary-General on developments in Afghanistan (S/2008/159).

I would also like to congratulate Mr. Kai Eide on his appointment as the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan. My delegation also commends Mr. Tom Koenigs, who completed his assignment in December 2007, for his hard work and his contribution to reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan.

In the past few years, Afghanistan has made notable achievements in various sectors. Representative political institutions have steadily been taking root, and economic development has been progressing. Yet, my delegation is concerned over the increasing activities of the insurgency, which are affecting those achievements in a harmful way. Most perturbing are the increase of concerted insurgency in the south and east of Afghanistan and attacks against local and humanitarian workers. Those violent attacks risk undermining the current efforts by the Afghan Government to achieve peace and stability in the country. The attacks have also prevented access by the Government and aid organizations to some districts.

Indonesia welcomes the commitment of the Afghan Government to address the security challenges as a priority. We recognize the

increasing need for capacity-building efforts for the Afghan National Army. We acknowledge the importance of the measures taken by the Afghan National Army, in collaboration with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), in responding to insurgency activities. My delegation also attaches great importance to respect for the principles of international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law, as well as the safety and security of civilians when security matters are addressed through military measures.

Indonesia also believes that a military approach alone cannot fully address the root causes of the current security challenges in Afghanistan. We therefore underline the importance of political dialogue and reconciliation involving all factions in Afghanistan, within the framework of the Afghan constitution. Like the Secretary-General, we too see the merit of a common approach to meet the security challenges and to stabilize Afghanistan, an approach which integrates security, governance, rule of law, human rights and social and economic development.

Addressing the drug economy is also an urgent matter, as it is particularly linked to sustaining the insurgency. In this regard, we welcome the fact that the counter-narcotics regime has gained momentum and that the prioritized implementation plan for the Government's National Drug Control Strategy has been endorsed.

In the political area, we are aware of continued efforts to harmonize views between the legislative and executive branches of the Afghan Government. More specifically, the 2009 and 2010 presidential and parliamentary elections will open a new chapter in Afghanistan's democratic transition. We welcome, in that regard, the Government's approval in November 2007 of a draft electoral law, which is being reviewed by the National Assembly. We also attach particular importance to the participation of all Afghan political stakeholders in providing views on such critical issues as the electoral system.

Regional cooperation continues to be pertinent to the strengthening of Afghanistan's engagement in regional dynamics and of its capacity to address transnational challenges. Indonesia, therefore, welcomes the hosting by the Afghan Government of the seventeenth meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Economic Cooperation Organization in Herat. The Kabul Declaration on Promoting Regional Electricity Cooperation between Central and South Asia is a landmark achievement in Afghanistan's regional diplomacy. We also welcome bilateral partnerships between Afghanistan and neighbouring States in finding mutually acceptable solutions to, among other issues, the challenge of Afghan refugees.

We believe that the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) remains critical to Afghanistan. UNAMA's support in achieving the country's national goals will continue to be needed. As the political elements of the Bonn process have been formally completed, UNAMA's role will continue to be important in assisting Afghanistan to execute various activities on other pillars of the Bonn Agreement.

In this regard, we concur with the assessment of the Secretary-General on the importance of enhanced coordination, political outreach, support for subnational governance, humanitarian

coordination, electoral assistance and strengthened cooperation with ISAF as points of emphasis for UNAMA's programme of work in the months ahead.

Considering the continued importance of UNAMA in supporting the Afghanistan Government in achieving its national goals and the daunting challenges it continues to face, Indonesia supports the Secretary-General's proposal for the extension of the mandate of UNAMA for a further 12 months.

Finally, our appreciation goes to Mr. Bo Asplund, who served as Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General, and to all UNAMA personnel for their dedication and tireless efforts in the discharge of their important responsibilities.

**Statement at 5930th meeting, Wednesday, 9 July 2008, 3:00 p.m.
(The situation in Afghanistan)**

Let me begin by joining previous speakers in thanking Mr. Kai Eide, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan, and Under-Secretary-General John Holmes for their respective briefings.

My delegation warmly welcomes the presence of His Excellency Mr. Rangin Dâdfar Spantâ, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan, and of His Excellency Mr. Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, at this debate. We thank them for their very important statements.

Since the 2001 Bonn Agreement, Afghanistan has been regarded as an exemplary State arising from conflict. In a few years, it has achieved notable progress in various sectors. But now, what Afghanistan has accomplished is being greatly corroded by serious challenges to the country's security and stability. Fear of sliding back to a conflict situation is increasing as the activities of militants grow stronger. The most recent bomb attacks in Kabul reflect the urgent need to address the security challenges.

Military measures remain critical in responding to the increasing attacks by militants. The role of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) has been central in assisting the Afghan Government to tackle the challenge. But military measures are not the only instrument to achieve peace and stability. As the militants continue to rely on asymmetric attacks, it becomes more difficult to adopt a full-scale military response.

The situation in Afghanistan must be dealt with through a comprehensive strategy that incorporates the pillars of security, governance and rule of law and socio-economic development. Indonesia therefore attaches great importance to the Afghanistan National Development Strategy, which serves as a road map for comprehensive action over the next five years.

An Afghan-led reconciliation process will continue to be needed in order to achieve sustainable peace. All-inclusive reconciliation requires all parties involved to renounce violence, respect justice, equality, freedom and tolerance and promote consultation. Addressing the drug economy also remains an urgent matter, as it is particularly linked to sustaining the insurgency.

The intensifying conflict in Afghanistan, exacerbated by natural disasters, has caused multiple humanitarian challenges, as described by Under-Secretary-General Holmes. With regard to financing for humanitarian assistance, there is an urgent need to allocate more resources to meet the emergency requirements of millions of vulnerable people. Mobilization of resources by the United Nations and by non-United Nations humanitarian agencies is a commendable effort.

As attacks against humanitarian deliveries continue, the protection of humanitarian actors and their work becomes critical. These attacks constitute a clear violation of international humanitarian law. My delegation strongly deplores such attacks, which not only jeopardize the lives of humanitarian workers but also could put the Afghan people in a more difficult situation.

Regional cooperation continues to be pertinent to the strengthening of Afghanistan's engagement in regional dynamics and its capacity to address transnational problems. Bilateral partnerships between Afghanistan and neighbouring States in addressing the security challenges and in finding mutually acceptable solutions to humanitarian problems are also of paramount importance.

My delegation also attaches primary importance to the Paris Conference on Afghanistan, held on 12 June 2008, which not only resulted in \$20 billion in pledges but also reaffirmed the Afghanistan Compact and supported the Afghanistan National Development Strategy. We are hopeful that disbursement of the pledges will be expeditious and that implementation will be effective and efficient.

In the current situation in Afghanistan, the role and contribution of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) becomes more crucial than ever. Its good-offices support, as mandated by Council resolution 1806 (2008), in the implementation of Afghan-led reconciliation programmes remains pertinent. UNAMA's assistance to the Afghan Independent Electoral Commission in ensuring free and fair elections in 2009 and 2010 will be instrumental in the consolidation of democracy in Afghanistan.

Finally, Indonesia wishes to reaffirm its full support for UNAMA and its work, and for its contribution towards a peaceful, democratic and prosperous Afghanistan.

**Statement at 5994th meeting, Tuesday, 14 October 2008, 10:15 a.m.
(The situation in Afghanistan)**

I wish to begin by joining previous speakers in thanking Mr. Kai Eide, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan, for his briefing and the Secretary-General for his report.

In the past few months, the international community has recognized the increase in challenges to peace and stability in Afghanistan. Military measures remain critical to responding to the security challenges. However, other steps will be needed in addition to a military approach.

The situation in Afghanistan must be managed with a strategy that incorporates not only security actions, but also the promotion of governance and the rule of law, as well as socio-economic development. Indonesia therefore attaches primary importance to the

Afghanistan National Development Strategy, which serves as a road map for comprehensive action over the next five years. We also attach great importance to making real progress in the implementation of the Action Plan on Peace, Reconciliation and Justice.

As the drug economy has helped sustain the activities of insurgents, continued efforts to circumvent that challenge are also crucial. In that regard, we welcome the recent decrease in opium cultivation and the decline in its production.

Also critical to achieving sustainable peace in the country is an Afghan-led reconciliation process. That effort must be inclusive and all parties involved must renounce violence, respect justice, equality, freedom and tolerance, and promote consultation. We recognize, in that regard, the various recent initiatives undertaken by neighbouring countries to assist the commencement of inter-Afghan dialogue and reconciliation. We are hopeful that those initiatives will achieve tangible results.

The protection of civilians remains a critical issue in Afghanistan. As indicated in the Secretary-General's report, a total of 1,445 civilians were casualties in the first eight months of 2008. My delegation therefore continues to underline the importance of compliance by all parties with international humanitarian and human rights law and the appropriate measures to ensure the protection of civilians. We also call on international forces in Afghanistan to take additional robust efforts to mitigate the risk of civilian casualties, in accordance with the Security Council resolution 1833 (2008).

My delegation is concerned over the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan. As pointed out in the Secretary-General's report (S/2008/617), the intensifying conflict, exacerbated by natural disasters, has worsened the situation. In that regard, we attach particular importance to expeditious resource mobilization in response to the impending crisis. Attacks on humanitarian workers and aid convoys are exceptionally deplorable. Such attacks will increase the suffering of the population in need. My delegation therefore urges that every step be taken to end such attacks immediately and permanently.

With regard to Afghan refugees, Indonesia welcomes the forthcoming international conference on return and reintegration of Afghan refugees. We are hopeful that the conference will mobilize support for the current return and reintegration of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons.

Partnerships with regional States as well as the international community will remain key to sustainable peace and development in Afghanistan. President Karzai's participation in the recent summits of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization is a welcome step. Most urgent at the international level is the swift honouring of pledges made at the Paris Conference. We welcome, in that regard, efforts to enhance the coordination of donor efforts and to strengthen aid effectiveness.

With regard to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), my delegation believes that the Mission will remain pertinent in assisting the country to tackle various challenges to its security and development. We, however, feel concerned over the obstacles arising from the deteriorating security situation in the country that continue to hinder the implementation of its mandate.

We welcome the ongoing preparation by UNAMA to open its new provincial offices. We are hopeful that the expansion will help bring about a political surge in the country, as envisioned by the Secretary-General in his report.

Finally, Indonesia wishes to reaffirm its full support for UNAMA and its work and contribution to a peaceful, democratic and prosperous Afghanistan.

2. Irak

**Statement at 5639th meeting, Thursday, 15 March 2007, 3:00 p.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

I would like to begin by extending the gratitude of my delegation to the Secretary-General for his report (S/2007/126). We are also very grateful to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Mr. Ashraf Qazi, for his tireless efforts in ensuring the effective contribution of the United Nations to peace and reconstruction in Iraq.

My delegation would also like to welcome His Excellency Mr. Adil Abdal Mahdi, Vice-President of Iraq, to this meeting.

My delegation is very concerned about the continuing violence, which results in human casualties on an almost daily basis and is overshadowing political and reconstruction efforts in Iraq. The deteriorating situation caused by that violence has affected, in a harmful way, the ability of many Iraqis to enjoy their basic rights. In this regard, we welcome Prime Minister Al-Maliki's new plan to deal with all armed groups, regardless of religious or political affiliations, combined with border reconciliation and economic measures. Despite many challenges to the implementation of the new plan, my delegation is hopeful that it will bring tangible results, not only in Baghdad, but also in the rest of Iraq.

Iraq is part of the family of nations. Thus, the international community simply cannot stand idly by. We must do our utmost to help to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqis and to restore Iraq's sovereignty, peace and stability.

Last year, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono put forward a proposal to promote the early resolution of conflict in Iraq, which consists of three elements: first, all-inclusive reconciliation among Iraqis, involving the current Government; secondly, the participation of the international community in reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts in the country; and, thirdly, the deployment of United Nations-mandated peacekeeping forces in Iraq after the withdrawal of foreign troops.

As regards reconciliation among Iraqis, my delegation believes that settling differences among all parties in the country is a matter of urgency. The key to such reconciliation is genuine dialogue across and among ethnic and religious groups. Dialogue will be robust when moderates are empowered and have more room and a greater capacity to set the agenda of Iraqi politics and to have a tangible impact on the process. Thus, we commend Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani's fatwa calling for unity and coexistence based on mutual respect, as well as

the formation of joint Sunni and Shiite committees in mixed neighbourhoods in the country. We are hopeful that more initiatives of that kind will proliferate, given their significance for the enhancement of confidence-building efforts.

For our part, my delegation is pleased to inform the Council that, in cooperation with the two largest Muslim organizations in Indonesia, namely, Nahdhatul Ulama and Muhammadiyah, an international conference among Islamic religious leaders for reconciliation in Iraq is to be convened in Indonesia from 2 to 3 April 2007. The conference is expected to agree on concrete actions that will strengthen the reconciliation process in Iraq.

With regard to reconstruction and rehabilitation, my delegation attaches great importance to the completion of those activities so that the Iraqi people can enjoy their social and economic rights to the fullest. Thus, we commend the hard work of the Iraqi Government to ensure the realization of those rights.

Given current conditions, however, Iraq cannot do it alone. Support from the international community remains instrumental for building the capacity of the Iraqi Government to meet various socio-economic challenges. My delegation welcomed the launch of the International Compact for Iraq. We fully support the partnership between the Government with Iraq and the United Nations in the preparations for and the management of the Compact.

We are greatly concerned about the continuing violence and attacks aimed at destabilizing Iraq. There must be reasons for the continuation of such heinous actions, and we cannot ignore the possibility that hostile forces in Iraq have emerged as a direct result of the prolonged presence of foreign forces in that country.

My delegation has always believed that a clear timetable for the withdrawal of foreign forces must be urgently sought, based upon a sovereign decision by Iraq, without creating a vacuum which could put Iraq in a more difficult situation. Such a time-bound exit strategy should, indeed, consider the requirements of sufficient capacity on the part of the Iraqis, so that they can be self-reliant in terms of security and economic development, and the existence of national unity based on genuine political dialogue and all-inclusive national reconciliation.

In the meantime, considering the cross-border characteristics of the Iraqi conflict, my delegation believes that countries in the region can play an important role in contributing to the promotion of peace and stability in Iraq and in preventing regional ramifications.

In that regard, we welcome the recent conference in Baghdad, which involved representatives from key countries in the region. The conference was an opportunity for diverse perspectives to constructively converge in support of the people and the Government of Iraq in their exertions to achieve economic progress, as well as durable peace and stability through national reconciliation.

As regards the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), my delegation wishes to reaffirm its support for the Mission. We fully support the development of UNAMI's operational capacity with a view to its becoming a self-reliant Mission. We also attach great significance to the continuation of a trust fund to support the operation of an entity that provides security for the United Nations presence in Iraq.

As a final point, my delegation emphasizes the importance of collaboration among UNAMI, agencies and refugee-hosting countries in addressing the Iraqi humanitarian issue. With 2 million Iraqi refugees in neighbouring countries and 1.9 million displaced inside Iraq, UNAMI absolutely cannot address this issue alone. Partnership is indispensable in that regard.

**Statement at 5693rd meeting, Wednesday, 13 June 2007, 3:30 p.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

Let me join other delegations in welcoming the Foreign Minister of Iraq to the Council and in thanking him for his presentation. My delegation is also grateful to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Mr. Qazi, for his comprehensive briefing.

Iraq and the Iraqis, like other nations, have every right to live in peace, without fear and in dignity. My delegation, therefore, is very concerned over the continuing political, sectarian and criminal violence that deprives the Iraqis of these rights.

We note the pause in sectarian conflict after the introduction of a security plan, but it was so brief and so frivolous that a chance for sustainable peace could not be seized. Now, clashes among factions continue and hostilities occur on an almost daily basis.

Indonesia condemns all terrorist attacks. In this regard, we express our deep sympathy to the families of the victims of today's attack in Sammara.

We welcome the commitment of the Iraqi Government to security and stability as its highest priority, not only in Baghdad, but also in the rest of the country. However, my delegation stresses the urgent need for the protection of civilians and the strict observance of international human rights and humanitarian law whenever security measures are enacted upon.

Atrocities in Iraq cannot be fully responded to by a security approach. Those acts are rooted in the complexities with which the Iraqis continue to grapple. In our view, a soft-power approach that promotes inclusiveness and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms must also be sought. In this regard, Indonesia supports the efforts of the Iraqi Government to engage leaders from across the political and religious spectrum to promote confidence-building through national dialogue and reconciliation.

In realizing its commitment to support Iraqi unity, on 3 and 4 April 2007 Indonesia hosted the International Conference of Islamic Leaders for Reconciliation in Iraq. The Conference adopted a declaration aimed at realizing inclusive reconciliation based on such values as peace, justice and equality, freedom, tolerance, balance and consultation.

My delegation also underlines the significance of national dialogue and recognizes the urgency of seeking reconciliation within the governing coalition. We support Prime Minister Al-Maliki's efforts to promote the unity of government.

The humanitarian consequences of the continuing violence in Iraq are a matter of great concern to my delegation. We highly appreciate the role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian actors in addressing the needs of the

Iraqi internally displaced persons and refugees. We commend the generosity of the receiving countries. My delegation welcomes the convening in Geneva in April 2007 of an international conference on displaced Iraqis. That was an important initiative in seeking collective solutions to the humanitarian challenges that affect the region as a whole.

Considering the magnitude of challenges that the Iraqis are facing now, support and assistance from countries in the region and the international community remain critical. Only through their contribution can Iraq fulfil its enormous human and economic potential.

Indonesia welcomes the convening of the expanded ministerial conference of neighbouring countries of Iraq in Sharm el-Sheikh on 4 May 2007. We look forward to the implementation of the three technical committees established at the conference on security, displaced Iraqis and energy supplies.

My delegation also attaches particular importance to the International Compact with Iraq, which marks a new partnership between Iraq and the international community. We fully support the role of the United Nations in helping Iraq achieve the goals of the Compact.

With regard to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, we continue to underline its importance in providing Iraq with constitutional support activities, electoral assistance, human rights promotion and development and humanitarian assistance. We welcome the intention of the Secretary-General to consider an expanded role and presence of the United Nations in Iraq. Under the current circumstances, in our view, there are at least three possible ways to enhance the role of the United Nations in Iraq. These are the flexible presence of more United Nations institutions in the country; a greater institutional foothold at United Nations Headquarters; and stronger United Nations support for Iraq in various international processes.

Iraq is experiencing a major transformation. We empathize with the challenges with which the Iraqis are dealing in such a process. A transformation of this magnitude cannot be done instantly and hastily. Indonesia reaffirms its full support for the Iraqis in their pursuit of a peaceful, stable, prosperous and democratic Iraq.

**Statement at 5710th meeting, Friday, 29 June 2007, 10:20 a.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

My delegation will vote in favour of the draft resolution (S/2007/390) before the Council on the termination of the mandates of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq. The current disarmament situation in Iraq has improved compared to the time when UNMOVIC was established. We therefore believe that the continuation of the mandates of UNMOVIC and the IAEA is no longer required. The closing of the mandate constitutes a major step in recognizing that a chapter in the history of Iraq has been closed and reaffirms that the new Iraq is committed to its disarmament and non-proliferation obligations.

My delegation believes that the expertise and experience gained during the many years of operation of UNMOVIC are invaluable assets to the international community. We hope they will not be lost and will remain available to an independent and multilateral verification system in the future. While we would have liked to see a prior technical assessment of the significance of the remaining unresolved disarmament issues in Iraq before closure, we can understand the difficulty of verifying all remaining issues. We hope however, that the remaining unresolved disarmament issues will finally be resolved and will not be beyond reach. In that regard, we note the commitment of the Government of Iraq as indicated in its constitution to fulfil its obligations in the disarmament and non-proliferation field. We hope it takes the necessary steps to implement that obligation, including early accession to the Chemical Weapons Convention. We are hopeful that the implementation of Iraq's disarmament commitment will contribute to the early establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery in the Middle East.

Iraq is now experiencing a major transformation. Iraqis are embracing a new statehood based on democracy, the rule of law and participatory development. It is not always easy for the Iraqis to proceed in this new direction, in particular when security circumstances remain grim in the country. We empathize with the Iraqis, who face many challenges as they embark on that process. Hence, we believe that the conclusion of the mandates of UNMOVIC and the IAEA in Iraq will provide an opportunity for the Iraqis to reallocate their resources in order to meet other urgent needs and priorities of the country.

Finally, my delegation wishes to extend its appreciation to UNMOVIC and the IAEA for their dedicated professionalism and contributions in the implementation of their mandates throughout the years in Iraq.

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**Statement at 5763rd meeting, Friday, 19 October 2007, 10:25 a.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

I would like to join previous speakers in thanking Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Lynn Pascoe, for his comprehensive briefing.

My delegation also thanks the representative of the United States, who spoke on behalf of the Multinational Force.

Ongoing violence in Iraq continues to pose serious challenges to the Government and people of Iraq in their efforts to achieve progress in reconstruction and nation-building. After years of hardship, the Iraqi people deserve peace, stability and progress. Considering the significance of security and stability for making progress in the political and socio-economic sectors, my delegation has little doubt that the Government of Iraq recognizes the importance of enhanced efforts, in cooperation with international forces, to find viable solution to the security concerns in the country.

Since conflict in Iraq has been unfolding across ethnic, sectarian and political lines, Indonesia holds the view that responsibility for restoring security and stability lies not only with the Iraqi Government, but also with all factions in the country. In this regard, Indonesia welcomes the ceasefire by some factions that led to the decrease in violence during September 2007.

The key to sustainable peace in Iraq is unity. Continued high levels of displacement and political gridlock have reduced the opportunity for concord. My delegation therefore believes that the

people of Iraq should stand side-by-side at all levels, set aside all ethnic, religious and political differences and work together in order to respond to the challenges that continue to confront the country. Genuine commitment by all factions to political dialogue and reconciliation is needed more now than ever.

The international community should leave no stone unturned in promoting conditions conducive to such reconciliation. In that regard, my delegation commends the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in maintaining contacts with political, religious and tribal leaders to encourage an inclusive political process aimed at bolstering security improvements in Iraq.

The International Compact with Iraq, which is premised on a reciprocal relationship between peacebuilding and economic prosperity, remains an important framework for international partnership with Iraq. The Compact will require institutional support in order to be effective. Accordingly, my delegation welcomes the establishment of the Compact secretariat as an agency of the Government of Iraq operating with the support of the United Nations to facilitate the implementation of the Compact.

The reaffirmation of support expressed by delegations in the September high-level meeting on Iraq reflects the continuing solidarity of the international community with Iraq. In our view, such a reaffirmation should help to strengthen the commitment of Iraqis to the goals of the Compact.

The continuing violence in Iraq has brought about serious humanitarian consequences. It has caused not only displacement, but also restriction of movement and limitation of access for humanitarian operations. We are troubled by reports of the increase in the number of Iraqi refugees and internally displaced persons. The condition faced by Iraqi children is also a source of particular concern.

With 4.2 million Iraqis being displaced, humanitarian assistance becomes a daunting but essential task. In this regard, Indonesia welcomes the launch of a joint appeal by a number of United Nations specialized agencies in September 2007 to address the urgent health needs of Iraqi refugees in neighbouring countries.

Coordination is essential in implementing well-targeted humanitarian aid for the Iraqi displaced persons and refugees. Accordingly, Indonesia believes that the United Nations can play a key role in supporting the Iraqi Government and host neighbouring countries to coordinate their humanitarian activities.

Support from countries in the region remains instrumental in building the capacity of the Iraqi Government to respond to various challenges. The continued implementation of the outcome of the Sharm el-Sheikh conference, including its working groups, is of paramount importance. We also attach great importance to the next expanded meeting of Iraq's neighbours to be convened in Turkey next month.

International partnership and support are key for Iraq as it faces the innumerable challenges ahead. The role and contribution of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) is particularly pertinent in helping the Iraqis achieve their goals. My delegation recognizes the increasing responsibility of UNAMI as tasked by Security Council resolution 1770 (2007), which my delegation fully supported. We, however, underline the importance to ensure a

balance between the expansion of tasks and availability of adequate resources. This will eventually assure the success of the Mission.

While taking into account the security challenges, the deployment of UNAMI to new areas will increase access for the Iraqis to international assistance. In this regard, my delegation welcomes the dispatch of a UNAMI team to explore the possibility of deploying staff to a new location in Basra.

Finally, I wish to reiterate Indonesia's full support for UNAMI and its work in Iraq.

**Statement at 5823rd meeting, Monday, 21 January 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

First of all, I would like to join previous speakers in thanking Mr. Staffan de Mistura, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, for his comprehensive briefing. My delegation also thanks the Permanent Representative of the United States for his statement on behalf of the Multinational Force.

The people of Iraq, like those of other nations, have every right to live in a secure and stable country. While remaining concerned over continued bomb attacks, Indonesia draws encouragement from signs of improvement in security, indicated by the steady decline in overall violence across Iraq over the past few months. We commend the efforts of the Iraqi Government to promote security and stability. We also commend the ceasefire declaration by some parties in Iraq, which has also contributed to the decrease in violence in the country. My delegation believes that all parties concerned recognize the importance of making additional efforts to achieve a permanent ceasefire, which is essential to the realization of durable peace in the country.

Capable and well-equipped Iraqi army and internal security forces are important for the realization of peace and stability in the country. We welcome the continued progress made in training, equipping and capacity-building of the Iraqi security forces. We attach great importance to the day when the Iraqi forces assume full responsibility for the maintenance of security and stability in Iraq, which will eventually allow for the gradual withdrawal of the Multinational Force, towards the end of its presence in Iraq.

Peace in Iraq also requires political stability, unity and consensus. Indonesia therefore underlines the need for all parties to set aside differences and promote dialogue in order to break the political impasse. One way in which political consensus can be fostered is with regard to constitutional issues. While resolving such issues will not guarantee a well-functioning political process in Iraq, their resolution will provide added stability and credibility for the Iraqi authorities as well as positive momentum. They are ingredients that can ensure greater efficacy of the political process in the long run.

Unity at the societal level is also key to achieving a durable peace in Iraq. Dialogue among religious, political and ethnic groups remains pertinent. The formation of the National Iraqi Gathering by a group of Sadrist activists, aimed at promoting tolerance and dialogue with other groups, is commendable.

Given the Diwaniyah incident in October 2007, which involved competing Shiite militias, intrareligious dialogue is no less important than interreligious dialogue in Iraq. In that regard, Indonesia welcomes the signing of an agreement by the Supreme Iraqi Islamic Council and the Sadrist Trend to prevent further violence between their supporters. We also welcome the convening of the first national forum for Islamic scholars on 27 November 2007 and the cleric-led initiatives aimed at reducing tensions between Sunnis and Shiites.

Developments in Iraq have been shaped not only by the dynamics inside the country, but also by the situation in its regional and international milieus. Neighbouring States can play an important role in creating a regional environment conducive to reconstruction efforts and the promotion of peace and stability in Iraq. In that regard, we welcome the fourth annual meeting of interior ministers of Iraq's neighbouring States, held in Kuwait on 23 October 2007.

Indonesia supports an approach that promotes regional cooperation on security issues with regard to Iraq. We are heartened by the recent efforts of neighbouring countries to reach out for greater involvement in regional stability, including the recent expanded meeting of the foreign ministers of the neighbouring countries of Iraq, held in Istanbul on 2 and 3 November 2007, at which internal stability, border security and expanded cooperation processes were discussed. We also recognize the important role that Iran and Syria have played in promoting cooperation with Iraq in areas such as economic and security cooperation.

Cooperation with neighbouring countries is also essential in addressing the humanitarian challenges of Iraqi refugees. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimates that 2.2 million Iraqis have fled to neighbouring countries, with 44 per cent of that number in Syria and Jordan and 9 per cent in other Middle Eastern countries.

My delegation continues to recognize the increasing responsibility of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), in accordance with Security Council resolution 1770 (2007). We underline the importance of ensuring a balance between this expanded role and the availability of adequate resources. Indonesia therefore supports the intention of the Secretary-General to closely review every aspect of UNAMI's work, in order to determine how progress can be made in implementing the expanded mandate that it was given in resolution 1770 (2007).

We support the engagement of UNAMI in discussions with relevant authorities in Iraq in order to prevent the lapse of the deadline set out in article 140 of the Iraqi constitution from causing further violence. We also support UNAMI's technical assistance to the Government of Iraq to make progress in deciding the future of some of the disputed territories.

Finally, I wish to reaffirm Indonesia's full support for UNAMI and its work in Iraq.

**Statement at 5878th meeting, Monday, 28 April 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

Let me begin by thanking, as previous speakers have done, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Lynn Pascoe, for his briefing and the Secretary-General for his report.

My delegation also thanks the Permanent Representative of the United States for his statement on behalf of the Multinational Force in Iraq.

We would also like to acknowledge and welcome the presence of the Permanent Representative of Iraq at today's meeting.

In the past few years, Iraq has achieved notable progress. We welcome the continuing work of the democratic institutions in the country and the International Monetary Fund's projected gross domestic product growth rate of 7 per cent in 2008. This achievement is, of course, attributable to the hard work of the people and Government of Iraq, as well as to the support of the international community.

Yet, at the same time, serious challenges continue to cloud the security situation and stability in Iraq. The recent spiral of violence in various parts of Iraq, which has caused hundreds of fatalities and more than 1,000 casualties, is a clear indication of the continued importance of national consensus and unity through political dialogue and reconciliation.

It is a reconciliation that upholds such values as peace, justice and equality, freedom, tolerance, balance, and consultation.

We welcome, in this regard, the continued efforts of the Government of Iraq in promoting dialogue and reconciliation. The convening of a national reconciliation conference in Baghdad on 18 March 2008 was also a welcome step.

We recognize the reconciliation potential of a number of legislative measures in Iraq. In this regard, we welcome the adoption by the Council of Representatives of a package of laws on 13 February 2008, which could help achieve a national consensus on the sharing of power and resources. We also attach great importance to the agreement on a hydrocarbon law, which in our view, is critical, not only to national unity, but also to the prosperity of the people of Iraq.

In spite of an increase in the national capacity of Iraq, the need for regional support and international assistance will remain critical. We, therefore, welcomed the convening of the third expanded meeting of neighbouring States of Iraq, held on 22 April 2008, in Kuwait and we are pleased about the upcoming high-level meeting of the International Compact for Iraq, to be held on 29 May in Stockholm, Sweden. The diplomatic initiatives of the Government of Iraq with a view to strengthening ties with neighbouring countries are also a welcome step.

Making Iraq a home for its own people is a daunting challenge. Violence in Iraq has caused serious human displacement. More than 2 million Iraqis have fled to neighbouring States, particularly Syria and Jordan. My delegation welcomes the intention of the Government of Iraq to develop a national strategy to address the question of Iraqi internally displaced persons and refugees. We believe that a regional partnership could help Iraq to tackle this issue.

In this regard, Indonesia welcomes the launching of a major fund-raising and public awareness campaign by the League of Arab States, in partnership with United Nations and other agencies, in Cairo in January 2008.

My delegation is hopeful that the 2008 consolidated appeal for Iraq, which was launched in Baghdad on 12 February 2008, will receive wide response. The appeal is important for the financing of both humanitarian activities and reconstruction programmes in the country.

The role of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) will remain critical. We welcome the continued expansion of its activities in accordance with resolution 1770 (2007).

UNAMI's support for the Government of Iraq in promoting reconciliation is commendable. The extensive meetings between Special Representative Staffan de Mistura and various religious and political leaders are an important part of the support.

We also welcome the engagement of UNAMI with the legislative body of the country through its constitutional support activities and with the Independent High Electoral Commission of Iraq through its electoral assistance.

Finally, my delegation wishes to reaffirm our support for the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq as well as for the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of the country.

**Statement at 5910th meeting, Friday, 13 June 2008, 10:40 a.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

At the outset, I would like to join other delegations in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Hoshyar Zebari, Foreign Minister of Iraq, to the Council and in thanking him for his briefing on the current developments in his country.

My delegation also thanks Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Special Adviser on the International Compact with Iraq and Other Political Issues, for his briefing on the activities of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and Mr. Warren Sach, the United Nations Controller, for his presentation on the status of the Development Fund for Iraq (DFI) and the International Advisory and Monitoring Board (IAMB).

We also wish to thank the Permanent Representative of the United States for his statement on behalf of the Multinational Force in Iraq (MNF-I).

Like any other nation, Iraq is deserving of peace and stability. The decline in the overall level of violence across Iraq in the past few months is therefore a source of great satisfaction and a development which we welcome. The efforts by the Government of Iraq to address security challenges have yielded tangible results. Despite this encouraging development, violence in Iraq continues and it remains a challenge for Iraq to achieve genuine sustainable peace.

In our view, the increasing capacity of the Iraqi security forces in ensuring peace and stability is critical to the withdrawal of foreign forces. In this regard, we welcome the continued efforts by the

Government of Iraq in making the Iraqi security forces better trained, better equipped and greater in number.

We also recognize that 2008 is a critical year in the partnership between Iraq and MNF-I as the latter's mandate was extended by resolution 1790 (2007) on 18 December 2007 on the basis of a final request from the Government of Iraq.

We therefore believe that training and capacity-building should be given a greater emphasis in the support and assistance of MNF-I for Iraq. This will hopefully help Iraq to be more self-reliant in meeting its security needs.

Atrocities in Iraq cannot be fully responded to by a security approach. An approach that promotes inclusiveness and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms must also be sought. In this regard, Indonesia supports the efforts by the Iraqi Government to engage leaders from across the political and religious spectrums to promote confidence-building through national dialogue and reconciliation.

Violence in Iraq has caused serious human displacement. More than 2 million Iraqis have fled to neighbouring States, particularly Syria and Jordan; and 58 per cent of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) are under age 12, creating special issues involving the protection of children.

The humanitarian crisis and the displacement that have been caused can lead to further instability in Iraq and has created a new challenge in the host countries. The development of a national strategy to address the Iraqi IDPs and refugees by the Government of Iraq is an important step. Sufficient resources must be secured in order to transform the strategy into reality.

The role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian agencies remains critical in assisting the Government of Iraq and the host countries in dealing with the Iraqi refugees. The 2008 consolidated appeal, which was launched in Baghdad on 12 February 2008, is a commendable initiative for pooling the financing for the humanitarian activities.

The IAMB remains an important body in the oversight of the use of resources of the DFI. Iraq is one of the richest countries in terms of its natural resources. The work of the IAMB must help Iraq to ensure that the Iraqi people benefit from the Fund.

With regard to UNAMI, we continue to underline its importance in providing Iraq with various types of assistance. Its electoral assistance will be particularly important as Iraq is now preparing for parliamentary and provincial elections. Collaboration between UNAMI and the Independent High Electoral Commission of Iraq is also an important step in ensuring the credible conduct of the elections.

As a final point, in reaffirming our full support for the Iraqis in their pursuit of a peaceful, stable, prosperous and democratic Iraq, my delegation wishes to highlight three elements that we consider key in contributing to the early solution of conflict in Iraq. First, an all-inclusive reconciliation among the Iraqis involving the current Government; secondly, the participation of the international community in the reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts in the country and finally, with the consent of Iraq, the deployment of

enhanced, mandated United Nations capacities and presence in the country, as foreign troops draw down.

**Statement at 5949th meeting, Wednesday, 6 August 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

Allow me to congratulate you, Mr. President, and your delegation on your assumption of your responsibilities as President of the Security Council for the month of August. I wish also to express our profound appreciation to Ambassador Le Luong Minh and the delegation of Viet Nam for their able stewardship of the Council's work in the past month.

I would like to join others in thanking the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Lynn Pascoe, for his comprehensive briefing, Ambassador Wolff of the United States for his statement on behalf of the Multinational Force in Iraq, and the Permanent Representative of Iraq for his important remarks.

The continued improvements in security across Iraq during the past three months have given the country and its people a chance to achieve peace, stability and prosperity. My delegation recognizes the contribution of combined political and military efforts to that progress.

Despite the positive developments, security in Iraq remains fragile. The recent suicide bombings in Baghdad and Kirkuk that claimed a considerable number of civilian casualties are a reminder that investment in security is still of paramount importance. We recognize the significance of the military efforts by the Iraqi Security Forces in building peace and stability in Iraq. We welcome the fact that the Iraqi Security Forces are gaining confidence and capability, with an increasing number of units capable of leading operations.

My delegation continues to underline the importance of the protection of civilians. As indicated in the Secretary-General's report (S/2008/495), civilian casualties in Iraq have often been caused by the failure of all parties to the conflict to make the distinction between combatants and civilians, as well as by disproportionate attacks on civilian areas. My delegation therefore reaffirms that all parties should respect international human rights and humanitarian law and continue to take the necessary measures to ensure the protection of affected civilians. We also share the concern of the Secretary-General over the psychosocial impact of violence and deprivation on millions of Iraqi children. We recognize the need for greater efforts and resources to address that challenge.

Military initiative alone cannot offer a solution. Achieving sustainable peace in Iraq will also require meaningful and inclusive political dialogue and reconciliation across the various divides. Significant support from all segments of the Iraqi population is critical to the achievement of long-term stability in the country. My delegation therefore believes that it is important for the people of Iraq to resort to peaceful means in settling disputes and to engage in political dialogue and reconciliation. The reconciliation meeting in Helsinki on 29 April 2008, which involved 30 representatives from Iraq's main political and ethnic groups, was a welcome step.

My delegation also recognizes the importance of the political progress that Iraq has achieved to the stability of the country. We welcome some recent positive steps aimed at strengthening unity within the Iraqi Government. The upcoming provincial elections will be an important stage in the democratic process in Iraq. We welcome the role of the Independent High Electoral Commission of Iraq in that regard. We also recognize the challenges that Iraq continues to face in the early passage of its electoral law and in the constitutional review process. We welcome the commitment of the Government of Iraq to making progress in those efforts.

The current growing relations between Iraq and its neighbouring countries are a laudable development. We welcome the convening in Kuwait of the third expanded Ministerial Conference of the Neighbouring Countries of Iraq on 22 April 2008, as well as the first annual review conference of the International Compact with Iraq in Stockholm on 29 May 2008. We continue to attach primary importance to the International Compact with Iraq, which serves as a new partnership between Iraq and the international community in achieving the consolidation of peace and comprehensive development.

The continued presence of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and its contribution in Iraq remains pertinent and essential, considering the ongoing efforts of the Government and the people of Iraq towards economic development, embracing democracy, good governance and the rule of law, and promoting peace and stability.

UNAMI's role in supporting the secretariat of the International Compact with Iraq in Baghdad and in the review of its management to increase its effectiveness is commendable. Its assistance to the electoral processes at the governorate level, its support for reconciliation efforts and its contribution to establishing a process to address disputed boundaries are also laudable. We recognize the request of the Government of Iraq for UNAMI to continue its presence and its work in Iraq. Mindful also of UNAMI's important contribution to building a peaceful, stable and prosperous Iraq, my delegation very much welcomes such a request.

Finally, my delegation wishes to reaffirm our support for the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of Iraq.

**Statement at 6016th meeting, Friday, 14 November 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

I would like to begin by joining previous speakers in thanking the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Mr. Staffan de Mistura, for his comprehensive briefing and the Secretary-General for his report (S/2008/688). My delegation also thanks the representative of the United States for his statement on behalf of the multinational force in Iraq. We also greatly appreciate the information provided by the Permanent Representative of Iraq.

We are encouraged by the overall improvement in the security situation in Iraq. We believe that this accomplishment will provide Iraq with the opportunity to make further progress in its political

processes and economic development. It is critical that the encouraging achievement be maintained and strengthened. In that regard, my delegation welcomes the continued efforts by the Government of Iraq to build the capacity of the Iraqi security forces. The recent transfer of security responsibilities from the multinational force to the Iraqi army in some governorates is a sign of the increased capacity of the Iraqi security forces.

My delegation also recognizes that, despite the improvement, Iraq continues to face serious security challenges. We believe that addressing the persistence of security threats will require not only military measures but also the promotion of dialogue and national reconciliation across political, ethnic and sectarian lines. Peace and stability in Iraq could also be underpinned by tangible progress in socio-economic reconstruction, strong steps to bolster the human rights protection system to guarantee the rights of Iraqi citizens and the promotion of good governance and the rule of law.

Electoral democracy is an important part of political stability in Iraq. My delegation, in that regard, is particularly encouraged by the adoption of the provincial election law in September 2008, which will serve as the legal basis for the conduct of the forthcoming provincial elections in early 2009. We are hopeful that those elections will advance political dialogue, establish representative provincial councils and empower community leaders to meet the needs of local citizens in cooperation with the Government of Iraq.

In ensuring political stability and economic progress, Iraq will continue to require the support of countries in the region. In that regard, we welcome the increasing cooperation between Iraq and other countries as well as institutions in the region. We are of the view that the sustained work of the working groups on Iraqi border security, refugees and energy could further enhance such cooperation.

We continue to attach primary importance to the International Compact with Iraq, serving as a new partnership between Iraq and the international community in order to achieve peace, consolidation and comprehensive development. We recognize the importance of the increased presence of international agencies in Baghdad and at the provincial level, in order to support various initiatives within the framework of the Compact. We therefore commend the United Nations agencies, such as the World Food Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Health Organization for establishing a permanent presence in Iraq.

The humanitarian situation of the Iraqi refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) remains a matter of concern to my delegation. International support aimed at meeting their urgent needs remains critical. The United Nations Assistance Strategy for Iraq signed in August 2008 by the United Nations and the Government of Iraq should provide a framework not only for enhancing economic development but also for mitigating the difficulties that Iraqi refugees and IDPs continue to face. We welcome the fact that increasing numbers of refugees and IDPs are returning to Iraq and the measures taken by the Government of Iraq to facilitate their return.

We remain concerned over the continued incidence of civilian casualties in Iraq. In that regard, my Government underlines the importance of respect for international humanitarian and human

rights law and for appropriate measures to ensure the protection of civilians.

Indonesia continues to attach primary importance to UNAMI's role and contribution to the efforts of the Government of Iraq in reconstruction and development, conducting elections and promoting human rights, good governance and the rule of law. We commend UNAMI for its continued support for the enhancement of relations between Iraq and the countries of the region with a view to promoting an agenda of mutual collaboration and partnership.

Finally, in light of the fifth anniversary of the heinous terrorist attack on the United Nations office in Baghdad in 2003, my delegation would like to pay tribute to the staff members and others who became the victims of the heinous attack. Their dedication and sacrifices will always be remembered.

**Statement at 6060th meeting, Wednesday, 31 December 2008, 6:40 p.m.
(The situation concerning Iraq)**

My delegation is pleased to acknowledge the participation at this meeting of His Excellency Mr. Hoshyar Zebari, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq.

Indonesia voted in favour of resolution 1859 (2008), adopted earlier, which extends, inter alia, the arrangements regarding the Development Fund for Iraq (DFI) and the monitoring of the DFI by the International Advisory and Monitoring Board (IAMB). As underlined in the 7 December 2008 letter of Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki to the President of the Security Council, the DFI and the IAMB have played an important role in assisting Iraq to ensure the use of the proceeds from Iraq's natural resources for the benefit of the Iraqi people.

We welcome notable developments in various sectors, including improvements in security across Iraq in the past few months.

Despite those developments, we recognize that Iraq continues to face multifaceted challenges. We therefore believe that the continued support of the international community will remain pertinent to the ongoing efforts by the Government and the people of Iraq in overcoming those challenges.

Of prime importance to achieving peace, stability and sustainable socio-economic progress in Iraq is inclusive political dialogue and reconciliation. Meaningful and inclusive political dialogue and reconciliation across political, ethnic and sectarian lines, as well as significant support from all segments of the Iraqi population, are critical to the achievement of long-term stability in the country.

We commend the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq for its support and assistance to the Government of Iraq in achieving progress in various sectors, including the promotion of dialogue and reconciliation. My delegation also wishes to reaffirm once again our support for the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of the country.

Before I conclude — and with your kind permission, Sir, as this may be the last occasion for my delegation to participate in a meeting

of the Security Council before terminating its current membership — I would like to share a few thoughts.

Foremost among those is our profound appreciation to the Member States of the Organization for entrusting Indonesia with the responsibilities that come with membership in the Council. We have been humbled by their trust and have worked diligently at all times, imbued with the awareness of the weight of that trust. In particular, my delegation has consistently worked hard to ensure that the concerns of the wider membership are properly channelled in the Council's deliberations.

My delegation also deeply appreciates the cooperation and collegiality that mark the working environment within the Council. Above all, Indonesia has consistently believed that an effective Council is a united Council, one that is able to speak with one voice and act as one. Building bridges has been our perennial concern and will continue to guide our efforts beyond the Council.

Not least, we owe a deep debt of gratitude to the Secretariat for their professionalism and dedication. I cannot find appropriate words to express our thanks for the support rendered. With those words, I wish the Council members all the best in their future endeavours.

3. Myanmar

**Statement at 5777th meeting, Tuesday, 13 November 2007, 3:00 p.m.
(The situation in Myanmar)**

Allow me to first join the previous speakers in thanking Mr. Gambari for his briefing. We commend his efforts to engage the leadership of Myanmar in addressing the complex and multifaceted challenges faced by the country.

The decisions by the Government of Myanmar to permit Mr. Gambari's visit earlier this month and to invite his return in few weeks are encouraging. We also recognize the significance of the decision by the Government to allow the visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Mr. Pinheiro.

We welcome the appointment of Minister Aung Kyi as liaison minister, his early contacts with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the decision by the Government of Myanmar to allow Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to meet key members of her National League for Democracy Party. We encourage the Government to further remove the restrictions on Daw Aung Suu Kyi as part of the effort to create conditions conducive to dialogue and reconciliation.

We equally welcome the readiness of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to cooperate with the Government of Myanmar to make this process of dialogue a success, as stated in her written statement, delivered by Mr. Gambari on 8 November 2007.

All of those developments represent the good faith of both parties, which is indispensable for a meaningful substantive dialogue to take place. It is our firm view that all parties concerned should make best

use of this momentum to move ahead with the process to promote national reconciliation in an all-inclusive manner.

Indonesia appreciates the acknowledgement of the important role of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in supporting the good offices of the Secretary-General. In this regard, we wish to recall the statement of ASEAN Ministers of 27 September 2007, in which the Ministers, *inter alia*, urged the authorities of Myanmar to resume national reconciliation with all parties, working towards peaceful transition to democracy, and to release all political detainees, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. The forthcoming ASEAN Summit in Singapore this month will witness the signing of an ASEAN Charter, which embodies the vision of an ASEAN community, bound together by shared values that include democracy and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. We believe that each and every ASEAN member country has the responsibility to honour the values shared by the group.

Moving forward, it is essential that the Security Council continues to speak in one voice to consistently support the Secretary-General's good offices, including the mission carried out by Mr. Gambari.

On the part of Myanmar itself, we again urge the Government to take further tangible steps for a genuine and inclusive dialogue. This would be a key instrument for achieving national reconciliation, which would constitute a foundation for Myanmar to move forward with its peaceful transition towards democracy.

On our part, it is Indonesia's strong commitment to continue to encourage Myanmar, bilaterally and within ASEAN, to address the challenges it faces in attaining such a noble goal. We urge the Government to continue to cooperate fully with Special Envoy Gambari and other United Nations mechanisms.

In conclusion, we wish to reiterate our firm support for the good offices of the Secretary-General, which emphasize the comprehensive engagement of the United Nations with Myanmar.

4. Middle East

**Statement at 5629th meeting, Tuesday, 13 January 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question)**

I thank you, Mr. President, for convening this open debate on the situation in the Middle East, an issue of paramount importance to the international community. Let me also thank Mr. Alvaro de Soto, Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, for his briefing on recent developments in the Middle East.

Before I proceed further, let me associate my delegation with the statements to be made by the representative of Cuba on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and by the representative of Azerbaijan on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Conference.

The Middle East conflict remains the most volatile conflict on the globe today and continues to pose a clear and present danger to international peace and security. The intractability of the conflict in the Middle East is a matter of deep concern to my delegation. We believe that an unprecedented step should be taken by all parties

concerned to put an end to the conflict. Hopefully sooner, not later, there will come a moment when a once-and-for-all solution to the conflict is agreed upon and is acceptable to all parties. In that context, we reaffirm Indonesia's long-standing and tireless commitment to support and contribute to the process towards finding a peaceful solution that would fulfil the right of the Palestinians to self-determination and statehood. At this stage, however, it is hard to think of the victory of peace through a lofty one-time solution.

At this moment, we have to appreciate positive developments of any scale that keep the peace process in motion. Among such positive developments was the signing of the Mecca declaration by President Mahmoud Abbas and Hamas leader Khaled Meshal on 8 February 2007. This lays the foundation for the formation of a government of national unity in Palestine. It is our fervent hope that the agreement will immediately be implemented and that it will be supported by the international community. We believe that the international community should respond to this encouraging development in a positive manner.

My delegation believes that peace cannot be fully obtained by diplomacy alone; it also requires the commitment of the parties to the conflict to cease the use of force. Thus, my delegation encourages the Israelis and the Palestinians to exercise restraint. Our call for the exercise of restraint from all extrajudicial or provocative actions would also include firm assurances by the Israelis, as the occupying Power, that they will maintain the nature of the holy sites in East Jerusalem, and the Muslim character of those sites, including the holy Al-Aqsa mosque.

Indonesia deeply deplores the excavation in the holy Al-Aqsa mosque. We urge Israel to immediately stop the excavation, because not only does the work have the potential to damage the mosque, which is highly revered by Muslims, but it will also increase tension and complicate efforts to revive the peace process in the region.

With reference to the situation in Lebanon, my delegation has mixed feelings about recent developments in that country. We are pleased with the steady implementation of resolution 1701 (2006). The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which is now standing at approximately 12,000 personnel, has steadily been carrying out its mandate. However, tensions remain in that country.

My delegation stresses the need for respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon. In this regard, we note with great concern the continuing Israeli air violations and the recent crossing by the Israeli military of the Blue Line, which led to a series of exchanges of fire, causing injuries to Lebanese security personnel. These actions are also a violation of resolution 1701 (2006).

My delegation is also concerned about the security situation in Lebanon. The very recent bomb blasts tearing through two buses, which caused at least a dozen casualties and deaths near the town of Bikfaya, are deplorable. Previously, violent clashes between students in Beirut University had reinforced concerns in Beirut.

We believe that the achievement of sustainable peace in Lebanon depends not only on the deployment of an international peace mission such as UNIFIL, but also on the existence of political unity and national cohesion. Threats from within are no less perilous than those from outside. This will require that all parties in Lebanon have a

strong commitment to national reconciliation and consensus and to the creation of a united and stable Lebanon.

We strongly encourage countries in the region to help to mitigate the consequences of the ongoing political turbulence in Lebanon and to prevent its spread.

As a final point, let me say that, in the view of my delegation, peace will come to the region only when the Israeli Government is willing fully to comply with the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 1515 (2003), which envisage the establishment of a independent, viable and sovereign Palestinian State, living in peace and security alongside Israel.

It would be a tragedy – for the Israelis, the Palestinians and the rest of the world – if peace is rejected and sustained violence is permitted to continue to prevail in the region.

**Statement at 5685th meeting, Wednesday, 30 May 2007, 3:00 p.m.
(The situation in the Middle East)**

My delegation wishes to explain its position before the voting on the draft resolution on the special tribunal for Lebanon.

Impunity must not be tolerated; justice must prevail. Those who are found responsible for the assassination of the late Prime Minister Hariri and for other related assassinations must therefore be brought to justice. Indonesia is committed to support the pursuit of truth and justice. We support the work of the International Independent Investigation Commission and the extension of its mandate. We also have a strong commitment to making a constructive contribution to the efforts to promote peace and stability in Lebanon.

We take note of the Lebanese Prime Minister's request for the Council to take a binding decision on the establishment of a special tribunal for Lebanon. The draft resolution before us today has been based on that request. However, the Council should not fail to take into consideration that there is no unified voice among Lebanese leaders. The domestic political situation in Lebanon has created difficulty for the international community to act further on that request.

On the draft resolution, my delegation considers that it has changed the legal nature of article 19 of the agreement, which clearly states that the agreement shall enter into force on the day after the Government of Lebanon has notified the United Nations that the internal legal requirements for its entry into force have been met. If the draft resolution is adopted, it will bypass constitutional procedure and national processes.

There are no legal grounds for the Security Council to take over an issue that is domestic in nature. Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations stresses that nothing contained in the Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State. Although that provision does not prejudice the application of enforcement measures under Chapter VII, the Security Council should not be involved in an exercise of interpreting, let alone taking over, the constitutional requirements that a State should comply with in the conduct of its authorities.

Before taking action on the draft resolution, which is intended to uphold justice, the Council should fully consider the domestic situation in Lebanon. The forceful interference by the Security Council in the national constitutional process as regards the establishment of the tribunal will not serve the greater interests of the Lebanese people, namely, reconciliation, national unity, peace and stability. The search for justice should neither create new problems nor exacerbate the already intricate situation in Lebanon.

In the light of the foregoing considerations, my delegation will abstain on the voting on the draft resolution.

**Statement at 5824th meeting, Tuesday, 22 January 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in the Middle East, including the
Palestinian question)**

The Security Council's consideration of the present grave situation in the Gaza Strip is timely and pertinent. That situation has seized the attention of the international community at large. We acknowledge, in particular, the efforts of the League of Arab States to deal with the crisis in the Gaza Strip by holding an emergency session on the issue in Cairo.

We would like to join other delegations in thanking Mr. Lynn Pascoe, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, for his briefing on the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

At this juncture, our delegation will limit its remarks to the crucial issue at hand and the main theme of this debate, namely the current humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Indonesia is deeply concerned about the current humanitarian situation in Gaza, deteriorating as a result of Israeli actions. Fuel shortages closed down the only remaining power station in the region, plunging the area into darkness and leaving a third of the population of 1.5 million without electricity. Hospitals, water treatment facilities and food supply have been severely affected. The Palestinian people are living in truly appalling and inexcusable conditions.

We condemn this unjust and inhumane collective punishment of the Palestinian people in Gaza, which constitutes a grave breach of international humanitarian and human rights laws. It must not go on. Israel must lift the fuel blockade and open the border crossings into Gaza immediately. The passage of imports and exports and the access of humanitarian workers to Gaza are imperative. Continuous and uninterrupted supplies of fuel, electricity, medical and relief items, food and water to Gaza are urgent.

Yesterday we noted the decision by Israel to ease the blockade of Gaza for one day. It is our call that all crossings be opened and all blockades lifted permanently. Israel must abide by its obligations under international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and immediately cease all its illegal measures and practices against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip.

The burden that Palestinians are bearing has now been made heavier by the continuing military incursions and operations by the Israeli occupying forces into Gaza. Military incursions, border closings and continued rocket firings will not offer a solution to the crux of the problem in the region. On the contrary, they perpetuate the cycle of

violence and undermine efforts to create an environment conducive to the achievement of the goals within the Annapolis framework. All parties concerned on the ground must exercise restraint and refrain from any action that could undermine those efforts.

The role of the international community in providing emergency and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people in Gaza to meet their dire humanitarian needs remains critical. We fully commend the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the United Nations specialized agencies, programmes and funds and numerous non-governmental organizations for their continued dedication and commitment under the most strenuous conditions. Their presence and coordinated contribution will remain critical in the months ahead. Israel must ensure unhindered access for humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people in Gaza to alleviate the situation.

Beyond immediate humanitarian concerns, we underline the need to find ways to sustain Palestinian economic activity, including in Gaza, and the importance of creating circumstances that would allow for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access. That is particularly relevant in view of the impact of crossings on the economic, social and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinians on a daily basis.

Finally, my delegation wishes to reiterate its full support for the realization of the two-State vision as envisioned in the Road Map and the efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference, the principle of land for peace and the Arab Peace Initiative.

**Statement at 5827th meeting, Wednesday, 30 January 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in the Middle East, including the
Palestinian question)**

Let me begin by joining the previous speakers in thanking Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Lynn Pascoe, for his briefing on the current situation in the Middle East. This monthly consideration by the Security Council of the Middle East issue is taking place against developments that affect the daily lives of the peoples in the region, as well as the efforts to bring peace to the region.

Peace in the Middle East was given an impetus in Annapolis in November 2007, when Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and President Mahmoud Abbas reached a historic joint understanding that outlines commitments from both sides for the resumption of peace negotiations. We remain confident that both leaders will do their utmost to realize the Annapolis goals. We are particularly encouraged that the parties have begun negotiations on core issues.

The continued support of the international community remains pertinent. The Paris donors conference is a commendable instance of such a contribution by the international community. We welcome the progress that has been made as a follow-up to the Paris conference.

The Annapolis conference marked a new chapter in negotiated solutions to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Its outcome provides a framework for concrete results, including a peace treaty between the two nations. However, the actual outcome of this on-going dialogue has yet to show clear movement in the direction of a solution to the conflict. Serious challenges clearly remain. Indeed, during this period the vicious cycle of violence has continued, in particular in the Gaza Strip. As Under-Secretary-General Pascoe noted, this month has been a month of heavy bloodshed.

The humanitarian crisis in Gaza is dire and unacceptable. The people of Gaza have been suffering not only from the closing of border crossings, but also from repeated military incursions by Israel. Unless it is addressed comprehensively, the situation in the Gaza Strip risks jeopardizing the promise that emerged at the Annapolis conference. We delved into the situation in Gaza extensively during the Council's open debate and follow-up consultations last week.

Today we wish to emphasize once again the importance of a common Council response to this unfolding humanitarian catastrophe. The Council cannot remain silent — that would indeed be a deafening silence. It is therefore a source of deep disappointment that despite serious and well-intentioned efforts, consensus has not been achieved. In the absence of such consensus, forums such as today's meeting are, in the view of my delegation, invaluable in providing the opportunity for views to be expressed.

We continue to believe that an inter-Palestinian dialogue is crucial to the success of the peace process. Dialogue is critical to moving the peace process forward, so as to build consensus and curb the violence that continues to erupt. With different sides advancing positions that sometimes oppose and contradict one another, deadlock characterizes the current political process and prevents progress. As we prepare to move forward with this process, we believe that it is imperative that efforts be made to facilitate dialogue among the Palestinian sides.

On Lebanon, we remain concerned over the continued political impasse that paralyzes the Government in the country. Lebanon's election of a new President has now been postponed 13 times. In a moment such as now, there is an urgent need not only for political consensus among contending factions, but also for breakthroughs that could end the political stalemate in the country. In this regard, Indonesia welcomes the efforts of the Arab League Secretary-General, Mr. Amr Moussa, in consulting with and encouraging various quarters in Lebanon to achieve unity and execute the presidential election. We recognize the importance of the three-point plan proposed by the League.

A presidential election must be realized in accordance with the Lebanese Constitution. Its continued postponement could cause harmful effects to the unity of the country. We believe that the process should be nationally owned; it should be done from, by and for the Lebanese. All parties concerned must now break the current impasse and build a consensus that leads to the election of a President.

The Middle East conflict has been so prolonged. The need to find a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive settlement to the conflict is absolutely critical. The Government of Indonesia is committed to helping achieve an end to this protracted and bitter conflict, which has been wearing on the parties for far too long. In particular, our

commitment and support for the Palestinian cause is total and unwavering. We hope that multilateral efforts, including by the Security Council, the Quartet and the Arab League, can maximize their full potential in contributing to the achievement of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on relevant resolutions of the Council, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference, the principle of Land for Peace and the Arab Peace Initiative.

Statement at 5859th meeting, Tuesday, 25 March 2008, 10:00 a.m.

(The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question)

I would like to begin by thanking the Secretary-General for his statement and Mr. Lynn Pascoe, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, for his briefing on the current situation in the Middle East.

This debate is pertinent as a forum in which delegations, particularly those of concerned countries from the region, and relevant organizations can reflect on ways to respond to the challenges of collectively bringing peace to the Middle East region.

The Middle East conflict has been going on for sixty years, and hope and despair have featured in every effort to end the conflict. The Annapolis conference is the most recent initiative aimed at ending a deadlock in the peace negotiations. It has injected a new vigour and has given new hope to the peace effort.

Yet, there is the risk of a disconnect between such hope and the situation on the ground. The cycle of violence has continued unabated. It has eroded confidence on both sides. Now there is an urgent need for rebuilding confidence. That will certainly require a complete end to violence. It will require immediate termination by Israel of all illegal activities, including the construction of settlements.

Compliance with international law by all parties must be promoted, and the utmost restraint must be exercised. Indonesia also shares the view of the Secretary-General, expressed during the Council's emergency meeting on the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip held on 1 March 2008, that incidents in which civilians have been killed or injured must be investigated and accountability must be ensured.

Indonesia believes that achieving the Annapolis goals will pave the way for a more comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict. We therefore welcome the resumption of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks on 17 March 2008, especially after a break of several weeks.

Indonesia also welcomes the forthcoming Middle East conference to be hosted by the Government of the Russian Federation. My delegation believes that the conference will provide a forum for strengthening the Annapolis process to achieve comprehensive peace in the region, including on the Israeli-Lebanese and Israeli-Syrian tracks.

Continued political and de facto divisions among Palestinians pose a particular constraint to unified efforts for the establishment of a sovereign and independent Palestinian State. We therefore continue to believe that an inter-Palestinian dialogue remains crucial.

The role of neighbouring countries in promoting inter-Palestinian reconciliation also remains important. The series of recent talks on inter-Palestinian dialogue within the framework of the Arab League or the initiative of individual neighbouring States is commendable. In that regard, my delegation is encouraged by the recent initiative of the Government of Yemen to promote inter-Palestinian dialogue.

The formation of a viable Palestinian economy is also key to the creation of durable peace in the region. We must, therefore, find ways to rebuild the devastated economy in the occupied Palestinian territory. In that regard, we underline the importance of the continued support and assistance of the international community, including the realization of pledges made during the Paris donors conference. Indonesia, together with South Africa, will convene later this year the Afro-Asian Conference for Capacity-Building of the Palestinian people, to be held in Jakarta.

Peace is of little value to someone who is dying of sickness or hunger. In the same vein, peace talks will mean nothing to a large part of Palestinians, who continue to live in harsh conditions. With nearly 85 per cent of the Gaza population relying on food assistance from the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies, the humanitarian situation in Gaza remains an issue of concern.

The freedom of Palestinians in Gaza from want and destitution must be immediately ensured. Thus, my delegation fully supports the work of the many United Nations agencies and other humanitarian partners on the ground. We also join the call of the Secretary-General on the international community to heed the consolidated appeal for Palestine launched in February 2008.

Humanitarian relief itself cannot address the suffering in Gaza as long as the Gaza crossings remain closed. My delegation therefore continues to underline the importance of the opening of the border crossings into Gaza permanently and without delay to facilitate the passage of imports and exports and the access of humanitarian workers to the area. Full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access is critical, particularly in view of the impact of crossings on the Palestinian economy and daily life. We also welcome the proposal made by the Palestinian Authority to assume responsibility for the Palestinian side of the Gaza Strip's border crossings and encourage contacts between Israel and the Palestinian Authority to act on that proposal.

With regard to the situation in Lebanon, peace and stability in the country are essential, not only for the Lebanese themselves, but also for all peoples in the region. Thus, the continued political impasse and repeated postponements of the presidential election remain issues of concern to my delegation.

Prolonging the constitutional void in Lebanon will be harmful not only to internal stability but also to the democratic process. It must, therefore, be avoided. While efforts exerted by the international community and regional States are of paramount importance, the final resolution of the internal conflict will be at the hands of the Lebanese people. We therefore stress the urgency of concerted efforts being made by all parties concerned in the country to end the political deadlock and build a consensus that leads to the election of a President.

The Middle East conflict has been for far too long tarnishing what our time could offer in creating a peaceful and liveable region. It has for far too long been wearing on the parties of the region. Finding a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive settlement to the conflict will thus be absolutely critical. Indonesia is committed to such an endeavour, on the basis of the relevant resolutions of the Council, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference, the principle of land for peace, and the Arab Peace Initiative.

**Statement at 5940th meeting, Tuesday, 22 July 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in the Middle East, including the
Palestinian question)**

Let me first of all join previous speakers in thanking Mr. Lynn Pascoe, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, for his briefing.

My delegation also would like to associate itself with the statement to be made by the distinguished representative of Cuba, who will speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Conflict in the Middle East has continued for far too long, taking the lives of countless civilians, wrecking families and preventing its young population from fully reaping the benefits of global economic development. For sixty years, the region has been a theatre of tension and violence, and on the Palestinian side, the nation has continuously faced hardship and has had to survive without a State. They have suffered the worst.

This has been going on for far too long, so long that it has tarnished our collective conscience. The Middle East conflict continues to pose a threat to international peace and security. Not because merely in and of itself, but also because of the inability of the Council to take concrete and resolute action.

The Council should play its own role in the process of achieving comprehensive peace in the region. It has moral and Charter responsibilities to make a contribution to the solution of the Middle East and should devote the same consummate political energy to resolve this conflict as it has devoted to conflicts in other parts of the globe. We call for the same vigour and allocation of time in addressing the Middle East conflict.

At present, prospects for peace in the region are flourishing. We must seize this opportunity. We are particularly heartened by the current surge in diplomacy aimed at jumpstarting a comprehensive peace process, as demonstrated by the ongoing negotiations between Israel and Palestine, the launching of indirect talks between Syria and Israel and potential steps on the Lebanon-Israeli track.

We are also encouraged by the ceasefire between Hamas and Israel, steps towards normalization of relations between Lebanon and Syria, the swap of prisoners between Israel and Hezbollah, as well as the increasing stability in Lebanon after the election of its President.

Also key to the establishment of a Palestinian State and genuine peace for all Palestinians is inter-Palestinian dialogue and reconciliation. We therefore continue to attach great significance to the Yemen agreement that outlined important avenues for dialogue and reconciliation among Palestinians.

With those positive developments, we have reasons to be hopeful that those achievements could eventually crystallize into a new equilibrium, in which all nations in the region share peace dividends and an independent and viable State of Palestine stands side by side in harmony with its neighbours. We, the international community, have been waiting for that moment.

Despite recent progress, we certainly cannot be complacent. Much remain to be done. The Middle East conflict will remain unresolved if all parties concerned do not go beyond the ordinary in their efforts to ensure a viable solution to the conflict. There is no better time than now to act to resolve the conflict and broker a peace. We welcome in that regard the unflagging commitment and contribution of the Arab League, the Quartet and countries in the region.

One challenge that now needs to be urgently addressed is the problem of Israeli settlement activities in the Palestinian territory. Those activities constitute grave breaches of international law and a serious obstacle to the establishment of a physically viable, sovereign and independent Palestinian State and thus to the achievement of peace itself. These illegal activities must be terminated immediately. The Security Council, for its part, should pronounce itself clearly and vigorously on this very important matter.

Indonesia therefore fully supports the draft resolution recently proposed by the members of the Arab Group.

Similarly important to achieving sustainable peace are continuous efforts in addressing other core issues, including borders, the issue of Palestinian refugees and the status of Jerusalem. The humanitarian situation in Gaza, which remains dire, also warrants continued response from the international community.

A viable Palestine State cannot be built in a day. It will require continued preparation and planning. Indonesia, therefore, attaches great importance to the Paris donors conference, the Palestine Investment Conference and the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and Rule of Law.

For our part, Indonesia, in collaboration with South Africa, has hosted the Asia-Africa Ministerial Conference on Capacity-Building for Palestine in Jakarta from 14 to 15 July 2008.

As a logical complement to the Annapolis Conference, this initiative is aimed at, among other goals, serving as a catalyst to the peace process in the light of the anticipated establishment of an independent and sovereign Palestinian State. Imbued with the Bandung spirit, the conference resulted in a list of commitments, including training assistance for as many as 10,000 Palestinians, including in the fields of law enforcement and administrative reform.

With regard to Lebanon, in line with the Doha agreement on Lebanon, we welcome the election of General Sleiman as President of Lebanon and we are hopeful that the new cabinet will be established as soon as possible.

We are concerned over the recent clashes in Tripoli, which caused injuries and casualties. My delegation therefore attaches primary significance to an item in the Doha agreement underlining that all parties will commit not to resort to arms or violence in order to resolve political conflicts.

Unity is a key aspect to the achievement of sustainable peace in Lebanon. Accordingly, we welcome President Sleiman's efforts in promoting dialogue and reconciliation in the country.

A peace process is not an easy venture. It never has been. It is a long and arduous journey that needs our outmost care and constant attention. As long as we promote peaceful ways rather than violence, negotiations rather than the use of military force and dialogue rather than confrontation, we shall surely be able to reach our end goal of comprehensive peace in the region.

It is therefore our fervent hope that ongoing efforts will yield results in the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on relevant resolutions of the Council, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002) and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference and the principle of Land for Peace and the Arab Peace Initiative.

**Statement at 5984th meeting, Saturday, 27 September 2008, 4:00 p.m.
(The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question)**

I wish to begin by expressing the appreciation of our delegation to you, Sir, for convening this pertinent and timely meeting on such an important subject.

The conflict in the Middle East is not only protracted but also complex. On the Israeli-Palestinian track alone, the conflict is awash with diverse factors. Core issues include the status of East Jerusalem, the borders of a Palestinian State, settlements in the West Bank, Palestinian refugees, security and water resources.

While recognizing the multifaceted nature of the Middle East conflict, I will focus my statement on the Israeli settlement activity in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Land is an indispensable dimension of every State. By that, I refer to our own land and not that of our neighbour. As Israel's occupation of the Palestinian territories continues and its settlers keep encroaching further into the territory, Palestinians watch their land claims disintegrate before their eyes, making a viable Palestinian State very difficult.

With the construction of settlements in the West Bank having nearly doubled in 2007 and the Israeli authority-backed initiative of new construction in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in 2008, prospects for a two-State solution are steadily declining.

Israel's settlement policies and practices, which have been aimed at altering the demographic composition, physical character and status of the Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, are nothing but a blatant violation of international law.

Among the provisions of international law that bind an occupier such as Israel are those under the Geneva Conventions, which clearly underline that the occupier must maintain the occupied area as intact and unaltered as possible, without interfering with the customary life of the area and any changes must be necessitated by the immediate needs of the occupation. The transfer of civilians to occupied areas, whether or not in settlements which are under military control, is contrary to the sixth paragraph of article 49 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, which clearly states:

“The Occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies”.

Furthermore, settlement activities are also in contravention of the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. As such, it contravenes Israel’s commitment to be faithful to the principles of the Charter.

My delegation is deeply concerned over the negative effect of the settlement activities on the ongoing peace process under the Annapolis framework. President Abbas has stated that Israeli settlement presents the greatest obstacle to the peace process. It is intricately related to and at the crux of nearly all other final status issues. If Israel has a genuine commitment to peace, it must stop all settlement construction, expansion and planning in the occupied Palestinian territories, including East Jerusalem, and dismantle the settlements built therein, in compliance with relevant Security Council resolutions.

Israel must also abide by the obligations under the Road Map and the commitment to the Annapolis goals. Under phase I of the Road Map, Israel bears the obligation to freeze all settlement activity. Under the Annapolis agreement, Israel agreed to

“immediately launch good-faith bilateral negotiations in order to conclude a peace treaty, resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues without exception, as specified in previous agreements”.

With regard to the social consequences of settlement activity, we are concerned about the damage caused by unlawful attacks by Israeli settlers against Palestinians, as well as about the limits on freedom of movement. Indonesia therefore wishes to join the Secretary-General, the international community and the Quartet in calling on Israel to end all settlement activity, including natural growth. We also urge the Quartet principals, who will meet later today, to reaffirm their call for the end of Israeli settlement activities.

We attach primary importance to the role of the Security Council in responding to the settlement issue. Back in 1980, through resolution 465 (1980), the Council called on Israel to “dismantle the existing settlements and in particular to cease, on an urgent basis, the establishment, construction and planning of settlements in the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem” (*resolution 465 (1980), para. 6*).

We believe that the same step could be taken by the Council in the very near future.

My delegation wishes to reiterate its full support for the efforts to reach the Annapolis goals. Our commitment to an independent, viable and democratic Palestine living side by side in peace and security with its neighbours is absolute. A just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East based on the relevant resolutions of the Council – including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002) and 1515 (2003) – must prevail. It will be a tragedy for the Palestinians, the Israelis, other nations in the region and, indeed, all humankind, if peace in the region is persistently rejected.

**Statement at 6031st meeting, Thursday, 4 December 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question)**

My delegation is concerned by the recent incident, as reported by the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. We have taken careful note of the views expressed by all related parties with regard to the incident.

The incident reminds us of the continuing grave humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip. The humanitarian suffering caused by the illegal blockade and the closure of Gaza crossings by the Israeli authorities are well chronicled and unacceptable. The provisions of international humanitarian law must be respected. We are aware that, at some points, Israel has allowed humanitarian assistance to enter Gaza. However, we believe that humanitarian access should be provided continuously and permanently in order to achieve tangible improvement of the humanitarian situation in Gaza. Many humanitarian agencies rely on the Israeli authorities for access to Gaza to assist a civilian population of more than 1 million living there.

My delegation underlines that the movement of persons and goods into Gaza should be immediately normalized in order to facilitate economic activity and to meet humanitarian needs.

The continued provision of emergency and humanitarian assistance by the international community to the Palestinian people in Gaza remains critical. In this regard, we commend the work and contribution of United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and other humanitarian organizations to mitigate suffering in the area.

While we need to urgently address the current dire humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, my delegation is not oblivious to the broader context of the issues under discussion. We consistently believe that finding a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is of primary importance. At this juncture, it is our belief that the Council needs to provide positive encouragement to the parties to continue and redouble their efforts to engage in vigorous, ongoing and continuous negotiations and to make every effort to achieve meaningful and results-oriented efforts. It is also pertinent for the Council to call on both parties to avoid any actions, activities or statements that could undermine or hamper the peace process.

It is also important for the Council to encourage early improvements in the situation on the ground that could help build confidence among the parties and create an atmosphere conducive to negotiations. In short, we need for the Security Council to speak, to pronounce itself, with one voice.

Finally, we wish to reaffirm our support for a two-State solution that envisions the creation of an independent, democratic and viable Palestinian State living side by side in peace and security with Israel and its other neighbours.

**Statement at 6046th meeting, Tuesday, 16 December 2008, 3:00 p.m.
(The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question)**

There is perhaps no international issue more important to my country, Indonesia, and closer to our hearts than the effort to find a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and to bring to an end the occupation that began in 1967.

We have therefore consistently supported efforts to achieve such a settlement based on all relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002) and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference and the principle of land for peace. Thus, we have lauded the commitment of the parties under the Annapolis peace process. We have recognized the vital role that the Quartet has been playing in the promotion of solutions to the conflict in the Middle East acceptable to all parties. And not least, we have been persistent in recognizing the contributions of countries in the region and of the League of Arab States to the Middle East peace efforts, including through the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative.

Unfortunately, the Security Council's recent record on the issue has been less than sterling. Notwithstanding the regular monthly meetings on the issue when the situation on the ground demands it, time and again, the Council has been unable to pronounce itself collectively and with a single voice. The Council's silence on the situation in the Middle East, including Palestine, has been deafening.

Today provides a welcome change. Our meeting today provides positive encouragement to all the parties to continue and redouble their efforts to engage in vigorous, ongoing and continuous negotiations and to make every effort to achieve a meaningful and result-oriented outcome. In this connection, the draft resolution before the Council today makes clear the need for the parties to refrain from any steps that could undermine confidence or prejudice the outcome of those negotiations. Thus, it is imperative that the Egyptian-brokered cessation of hostilities in the Gaza Strip and southern Israel be maintained.

Above all, it is essential that Israel immediately lift the closure of the Gaza crossings. The civilian population in the Gaza Strip is enduring hardships and difficulties that are unacceptable. Their plight must be urgently addressed. Not least, Israel must immediately end its illegal settlement activities in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Indeed, the challenge is to find a way to ensure that there is no gap between the peace efforts and the situation on the ground. As the peace efforts consolidate and gather pace, there must be commensurate positive developments on the ground. The dividends of peace must be felt.

This perspective is the right one, not only because there has been too much suffering and sacrifice, but also because improvements in the situation on the ground will, in turn, reinforce the momentum in the negotiations. We need to transform the all-too-familiar cycle of escalating violence into a virtuous cycle of dialogue, reconciliation and cooperation. In this regard, we attach great importance to international efforts to develop and strengthen Palestine's national

institutions, as is recognized in the draft resolution before the Council today.

A truly comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East requires a solution not only to the conflict between Israel and Palestine, but also on the Israel-Lebanon and Israel-Syria tracks. On the Israel-Lebanon track, much remains to be done to realize the goals of a permanent ceasefire and a long-term solution as envisioned by Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). Negotiations on the Israel-Syria track have long been inactive. However, signs of reinvigoration through indirect talks are discernible. Indonesia wishes to underscore that a comprehensive peace in the Middle East requires progress on those tracks based on the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

The Council's coming together today could not be more timely. We believe that this meeting and its outcome offer the potential to consolidate the peace process and indeed provide a platform for further progress. Not least, it signals that the Council, once again, is shouldering its Charter-mandated responsibilities. The Security Council must and indeed can exert a positive influence on the Middle East peace process.

**Statement at 6049th meeting, Thursday, 18 December 2008, 3:00 p.m.
(The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question)**

I wish to begin by joining previous speakers in thanking Mr. Robert Serry, the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, for his important briefing. We welcome the convening of this open debate, which provides the opportunity for the general membership of the United Nations to express its views on an issue of great importance.

Despite many critical developments on the ground that have taken place in the region, the Security Council has, in the past few years, been fraught with silence in response to the Middle East conflict. It is our fervent hope that the adoption of resolution 1850 (2008) two days ago will signal the new beginning of a Council being able to assume its Charter-mandated responsibilities with respect to the situation in the Middle East.

Once again, as the parties proceed in their negotiations, we wish to underscore the need for the critical challenges on the ground to be urgently addressed.

The situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank remains a matter of profound concern. The humanitarian consequences of the Israeli siege of the Gaza Strip and the closures of the Gaza crossings have been grave and intolerable. The briefing by the Special Coordinator just now chronicled the sufferings endured by the civilian population in the Gaza Strip. The siege must be lifted immediately in order to allow the civilian population in Gaza to have access to water, employment, commerce, medical treatment and education – essentially, access to their basic needs. It is also imperative that the Egyptian-brokered maintenance of calm in the Gaza Strip and southern Israel be maintained.

Steps that could undermine confidence or prejudice the outcome of negotiations must be stopped and reversed. It is critical that any actions, activities or statements that could undermine or hamper the

peace efforts be avoided. In that connection, Israeli settlement activities in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, that contravene international law and the principles of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force must end. The construction of walls on Palestinian land, which is in contrary to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice, must cease and the walls be removed.

We draw some encouragement from the recent release of 227 Palestinians by the Israeli authorities. However, my delegation remains concerned over the fate of thousands of other Palestinians still imprisoned by Israel and calls for their similar release.

Ending the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory and the creation of an independent, viable and democratic Palestine are central to the creation of peace in the region. In anticipating the creation of a Palestinian State, we underline the importance of international assistance to the institution-building activities in Palestine, including facilitating economic development through an improvement of conditions on the ground.

My delegation also cannot overemphasize how incredibly important unity among Palestinians is. We support all efforts to achieve that end. We are aware that the inter-Palestinian dialogue planned for November was postponed and has been rescheduled for December 2008. We are hopeful that the dialogue can be fully implemented as planned.

We recognize the vital role that Quartet has been playing in the promotion of solutions to the conflict in the Middle East that are acceptable to all parties. We welcome the regular consultations among the Quartet principals, including the recent meeting in New York. My delegation also commends the League of Arab States and individual countries in the region for their important contributions to the Middle East peace efforts. We attach particular importance to the Arab Peace Initiative.

With regard to Lebanon, my delegation welcomes the overall political stability in the country as the new unity Government continues to function. We attach primary importance to the continued efforts to promote dialogue and reconciliation involving all Lebanese factions across political, religious and ideological lines.

We look forward to the implementation of the 15 October 2008 agreement between Lebanon and Syria on formalizing the diplomatic relationship between the two countries. My delegation also underlines the importance of the indirect talks between Israel and Syria. Israel is called upon to fully comply with all the relevant Security Council resolutions relating to the Lebanese and Syrian tracks.

The Middle East conflict has endured for far too long, and ending it warrants our serious efforts. My delegation consistently believes that finding a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive settlement to the Middle East conflict is of primary importance. Indonesia will remain committed to its role and contribution, within and beyond the Security Council, to the efforts to attain comprehensive and sustainable peace in the region, based on the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002) and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference and the principle of land for peace.

**Statement at 6060th meeting, Wednesday, 31 December 2008, 6:40 p.m.
(The situation in the Middle East, including the
Palestinian question)**

Thank you, Mr. President, for convening this emergency meeting of the Security Council. We also very much appreciate the presence of the Secretary-General and the statement he made earlier this evening.

My delegation would like to begin by expressing, in the clearest manner possible, its outrage at and strong condemnation of the continued military onslaught by Israel in the Gaza Strip. For days now, we have all been witness to the excessive and disproportionate use of force by Israel and the collective punishment of innocent civilians in contravention of international law, including the Geneva Conventions. One and a half million Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip are living in a state of constant fear. Innocent civilians, including women and children, have been killed and injured. International humanitarian workers risk death and injury as they carry on their vital mission.

We must not allow this situation to continue. The violence must end, and it must end now.

At this critical juncture, there should be no lack of clarity about what needs to happen. Israel must immediately end its attacks against innocent civilians in the Gaza Strip and comply with international humanitarian and human rights law. There is a need to cease hostilities and put to an end the cycle of violence.

The continuing violence in the Gaza Strip can only worsen the already dire humanitarian situation there. Civilians in Gaza have been suffering as the illegal blockade and the closure of the Gaza crossings by Israeli authorities continue. We are aware that at some points Israel has allowed humanitarian assistance to enter Gaza. However, we believe that humanitarian access should be provided continuously and permanently in order to achieve tangible improvement of the humanitarian situation in Gaza. We therefore once again call on Israel to immediately lift the blockade and the closure.

My delegation also underlines that movement of persons, including humanitarian workers, and goods into Gaza should be immediately normalized in order to facilitate economic activity and to meet humanitarian needs.

The continued provision of emergency and humanitarian assistance by the international community to the Palestinian people in Gaza remains critical. In this regard, we commend the United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and other humanitarian organizations for their work in the Gaza Strip.

To help ease the suffering of the Palestinian people in Gaza, Indonesia will send humanitarian assistance in the amount of \$1 million.

Indonesia commends the Secretary-General for his personal engagement on the unfolding crisis in the Gaza Strip. In this regard, we welcome the intensive efforts that the Secretary-General is making with all parties concerned in order to end the violence and restore calm.

Indonesia also recognizes the important role that countries in the region, individually or collectively through the League of Arab States,

can play in promoting peace in the region. We welcome, therefore, the convening of the meeting of Foreign Ministers of the League of Arab States in Cairo earlier today to contribute constructively to the response to the ongoing crisis in the Gaza Strip. We believe that the Quartet also has an important role to play. Not least, the Security Council is called upon to remain seized of the unfolding crisis.

The Council's call in its statement of 28 December 2008 remains unheeded by Israel. Thus, the Security Council should consider the possibility of pursuing stronger measures to end all violence and military activities and to restore the ceasefire. In that connection, we therefore fully support the draft resolution which has just been introduced by the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, as it stands.

5. Timor Leste

**Statement at 5628th meeting, Monday, 12 February 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in Timor-Leste)**

Let me begin by welcoming His Excellency Prime Minister José Ramos-Horta of Timor-Leste to the Chamber. His statement provided us with an insightful account of the situation in his country and of the wishes and expectations of the Government and its people.

My delegation appreciates the report of the Secretary-General and wishes to warmly congratulate Mr. Atul Khare for his appointment as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to Timor-Leste and head of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT). We thank him for his informative presentation.

As Timor-Leste's closest neighbour, Indonesia continues to enjoy an excellent level of bilateral relations with that country. We follow closely the developments there and hold regular consultations with our Timorese counterparts at various levels. These include the meeting between President Xanana Gusmão and President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in Jakarta on 18 December 2006, as mentioned in the Secretary-General's report.

We commend the efforts made by the leaders of Timor-Leste in promoting political and communal reconciliation with a view to addressing the underlying causes of the political crisis of April and May last year. It is our hope that political and other leaders of Timor-Leste put their national interests first and engage in good-faith dialogue, setting aside their differences and promoting common goals in order to create favourable conditions for the forthcoming presidential and parliamentary elections.

We welcome the significant improvement of the security situation in the country, as attested to in the report before us, which observes that although the overall security situation has tended to remain volatile, there have been longer periods of calm and fewer outbreaks of violence.

Indonesia continues to deepen and expand its bilateral cooperation with Timor-Leste. In addition to our bilateral joint commission meetings, which take place on regular basis, Indonesia,

together with Australia and Timor-Leste, has also established a regular trilateral ministerial meeting as an avenue through which we can explore meaningful cooperation in supporting development in Timor-Leste. The last meeting was held in Dili on 4 September 2006, and we agreed to embark on various undertakings.

In the regional context, it is worth noting that the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), at its summit in Cebu last month, decided to include Timor-Leste in the functional cooperation of ASEAN. In a spirit of partnership, Indonesia has expressed its readiness to assist. We are pleased to announce the appointment of an experienced Indonesian ambassador as senior adviser to facilitate Timor-Leste's participation in ASEAN activities. Upon the invitation of Timor-Leste, he will hold consultations with the Government of Timor-Leste this month.

The process of nation-building and reconciliation is a highly complex and sensitive matter. Therefore the United Nations and the international community should continue to play a constructive and nurturing role in assisting Timor-Leste to navigate its way through this important challenge. With particular reference to UNMIT, my delegation is of the view that one of its priorities should be to assist with and ensure the credibility of the forthcoming elections in Timor-Leste. The Mission should devote adequate resources to help in every aspect of the preparation for and conduct of the elections and to ensure they will take place in a democratic and peaceful manner.

We agree that successful elections are only one element of building a democratic State. In the context of the complex and delicate situation in Timor-Leste, the achievement of the forthcoming elections should go far beyond the election of the President and members of parliament; they should provide momentum for the return of this new nation to the path of stability and development. Durable peace and stability in Timor-Leste will be achieved only when the country's development challenges are addressed comprehensively. It is the responsibility of the international community to help ensure that this opportunity does not slip by.

In this regard, we note with interest the "compact" process between Timor-Leste and the international community, which entails a reorientation of the existing national development plan and external financing, as required, to deal with the 2006 crisis in the country and its causes. We support the integrated approach that UNMIT has embarked upon, and its collaboration and facilitation role with agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations towards focusing on the compact priorities. We are confident of the strong and dynamic leadership of the Secretary-General's new Special Representative in conveying a sense of vision and dynamism to all the stakeholders in Timor-Leste and the international community.

Finally, we believe that the policy lines followed by the Security Council in the past few years should continue, namely to promote as much as possible the self-reliance and ownership of the Government and people of Timor-Leste and encourage broad-based partnership with various actors for sustainable development. It is in this regard that we support the extension of UNMIT's mandate as recommended by the Secretary-General. We also support the Timorese Government's request that an additional formed police unit be deployed to strengthen security for the critical electoral process.

Indonesia, for its part, will continue to assist Timor-Leste in addressing the challenges it is facing on the basis of shared principles of peaceful co-existence and forward-looking, reconciliatory and mutually beneficial relations.

**Statement at 5843rd meeting, Thursday, 21 February 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in Timor-Leste)**

I would like to join previous speakers in thanking the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, for his informative briefing, and the Secretary-General for his report. My delegation also deeply appreciates the important statement by the Permanent Representative of Timor-Leste, Ambassador Nelson Santos.

The recent news of the armed attacks against President José Ramos-Horta and Prime Minister Xanana Gusmão causes us profound concern and pause. We hope that President Ramos-Horta makes a swift recovery and will be able to resume his duties at an early date.

We unreservedly condemn those attacks. They constitute nothing less than an assault on Timor-Leste's democracy. We praise the quick and effective actions taken by the leadership of Timor-Leste to prevent escalation of this grave situation. The leaders and people of Timor-Leste have demonstrated their wisdom in responding to the situation by exercising restraint in their actions in the interest of maintaining peace and stability. These latest deplorable events underscore the need for the continued support and engagement of the international community.

The Security Council mission to Timor-Leste last November and the visit by the Secretary-General provided us with a window into the current situation there and a lucid and candid assessment of the key concerns and issues that the country is facing. Together with the current report of the Secretary-General, they provide a basis for us to recalibrate the priorities and approaches of the United Nations Mission's programmes and activities in the country to better suit the current realities and help reverse the setbacks that have occurred there since 2006.

By far the most critical issue in the country would appear to be restoring peace and security and building sounder foundations for long-term stability. In this regard, it is extremely important for the United Nations Mission in Dili to continue, as a matter of high priority, to support Timor-Leste in fully addressing the unresolved root causes of the 2006 crisis, including political divisions, weak institutions — especially the national police and the security forces — and poverty and unemployment, especially among the youth.

It is equally important for the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) to support the efforts made and the approach adopted by the Government in resolving some grave issues remaining from the 2006 crisis that continue to contribute to the fragility of the security situation in the country, such as internally displaced persons, petitioners and fugitives.

We appreciate the good offices efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to enhance dialogue among

the leadership and facilitate a consensus approach in addressing the various problems.

We believe that with the strong determination and untiring efforts made in a united manner by the leadership of Timor-Leste, and with re-energized and more focused assistance from UNMIT and other partners, the serious challenges that the country is facing can be overcome. It is only then that progress made so far in the country's State-building can be consolidated and its economic development reinvigorated.

In practical terms, it is important for UNMIT to focus on supporting the Government's programme on short-term priorities contained in its 2008 budget. Their effective implementation would have durable impact on stabilization in the country. We place importance on UNMIT's continued role in cooperating and coordinating with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant partners in order to support the implementation of the Government's national recovery strategy.

Another important note is the issue of expediting security sector reform. We support the Secretary-General's plan to gradually transfer the responsibility for police operations from the United Nations police to the national police of Timor-Leste and to emphasize training and mentoring assistance from the United Nations police.

There is a great need for UNMIT to support national capacity-building efforts and to shore up the ability of the Government and other State institutions to function in their proper roles. That includes the need to strengthen the full range of political, judicial and economic institutions and infrastructure so that democratic governance can thrive. As a general note, we attach great importance to the concepts of ownership of and leadership by the Government and people of Timor-Leste in the planning and implementation of United Nations assistance in this regard. Therefore, in the light of those considerations, Indonesia supports the recommendation of the Secretary-General for the extension of UNMIT's mandate for a period of 12 months.

We are pleased to inform the Council that Indonesia and Timor-Leste continue to enjoy an excellent bilateral relationship. We also witness continuing superb rapport among leaders of both countries. The Government and people of both countries continue to deepen and expand cooperation on the basis of forward-looking and reconciliatory principles.

In conclusion, we wish to reaffirm my Government's strong commitment to continue to assist Timor-Leste on a bilateral basis in achieving peace, stability, and prosperity for a democratic Timor-Leste.



UN Photo

Wide view of the Security Council meeting on threats to international peace and security, 08 January 2007 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.



Rezlan Ishar Jenie, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations, addressing the Security Council meeting on "Threats to international peace and security," 08 January 2007 at UN Headquarters in New York.



UN Photo

Wide-view of the Security Council meeting on “The role of the regional and sub-regional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security”, presided over by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Hassan Wirajuda, 6 November 2007 at UN Headquarters in New York.



UN Photo

Hassan Wirajuda, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, chairs the Security Council meeting on “The role of regional and sub-regional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security”, 6 November 2007 at UN Headquarters in New York. Also in attendance: Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (left).



Marty Natalegawa (center), Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations and President of the Security Council for November 2007, briefs journalists on the Council's programme of work for the month, 02 November 2007.



UN Photo

Marty Natalegawa, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations, and President of the Security Council for November 2007, briefs correspondents following a Council meeting on "The situation in the Middle-East, including the question of Palestine," 30 November 2007.



UN Photo

Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, addresses Day of Palestinian People Solidarity Observance, 29 November 2007 at the Trusteeship Council Chamber. Also in attendance: President of the Security Council Marty Natalegawa.



Security Council President, Marty Natalegawa, addresses Day of Palestinian People Solidarity Observance, 29 November 2007 at the Trusteeship Council Chamber. Also at the podium: President of the 62nd session of the UNGA, Srgjan Kerim (right); Secretary-General of the Executive Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, Yasser Abed Rabbo (left).



UN Photo

**President of the Security Council for the Month of November
Addresses the 62nd U.N. General Assembly,
12 November 2007**

Marty Natalegawa, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations and President of the Security Council for November 2007 introduces the annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly for the period of 1 August 2006 to 31 July 2007, during the 47th meeting of the U.N. General Assembly 62nd session.

CHAPTER II AFRICA

1. Peace and Security in Africa

Statement at 5649th meeting, Wednesday, 28 March 2007, 10 a.m.
(Relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations, in particular the African Union, in the maintenance of international peace and security)

Madam President, at the outset, on behalf of my delegation, I would like to express our appreciation to you for organizing this debate on the relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations, in particular the African Union (AU), in the maintenance of international peace and security.

Coming so soon after the recent African Union summit meeting in Addis Ababa, this thematic debate, under the auspices of the delegation of a key member of the African Union, is a pertinent opportunity for us to re-examine this important subject.

Present-day relations among nations feature four important processes that affect, in one way or another, the internal and external dynamics of every nation. The first is multilateralism. The United Nations is central to contemporary multilateralism; since its inception, it has been working steadily and in a concerted manner to maintain international peace and security and to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character.

The second process is regionalism, which has been steadily proliferating, emerging as a force that reinvigorates the world's dynamics. In Europe, the European Union integrates Europeans into a deep sense of "we-ness". The transformation of the Organization of African Unity into the African Union marked a new departure towards a more integrated Africa. In our region, the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is moving from a mere association towards a community with a deep sense of interdependence and unity. The ASEAN community ideal is developed on the basis of benchmarks embedded within its three pillars, namely, the ASEAN Security Community, the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-cultural Community.

Thirdly, there have been tremendous efforts recently to optimize mutual benefits through interregional partnerships. Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, for example, has facilitated cooperation between Asian nations and the Americas. We have the Asia-Europe Meeting — a bridge between Asians and Europeans. Between Asia and Africa, the long-established bridge of cooperation between the two continents has also been reinvigorated by the launch of the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership through an initiative co-sponsored by Indonesia and South Africa — your beloved country, Madam President.

Lastly, we are also currently becoming aware of the growing urgency of collaboration within the framework of multilateralism: regionalism. This manifests itself in particular in the relationship

between the United Nations and various regional arrangements, a subject on which my delegation would like to dwell further.

The drafters of the Charter were visionary about the regionalism that was yet to come and the importance of its relationship with the United Nations when they included Chapter VIII in the Charter. In our view, that Chapter reflects the sense of the authors' pragmatism concerning situations in which the United Nations would not always be able to achieve its objectives alone. As also stipulated in the Charter, regional organizations are encouraged to develop and play their role in the maintenance of international peace and security. Today, their vision is relevant, and its realization is visible.

The contributions of regional organizations to the maintenance of peace and security and the promotion of economic and socio-political progress both within and outside their milieu are increasing. The EU's assumption of responsibility in the stabilization efforts in Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina has enabled the United Nations to use more of its resources to address threats to international peace and security in other regions.

The African Union and some subregional arrangements have begun to play a similar role in response to various security challenges in the African continent. The EU has broadened its reach beyond Europe. It collaborated with ASEAN in deploying a monitoring mission in Aceh, Indonesia. That has become the first model for interregional cooperation in the South-East Asian region.

There are three scenarios as to how the United Nations and regional organizations may be able to nurture their relationship with regard to conflict resolution. First, both entities may develop a joint mission deployed in different parts of the globe. Such a concerted venture requires complementarity of resources.

Secondly, the United Nations could resume a mission previously under the auspices of a regional organization. That is what has been under discussion in the case of Somalia. Thirdly, regional organizations can take responsibility for the continuation of a United Nations-initiated peace mission. A good example of that scenario is the takeover of the United Nations International Police Task Force by the EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Another scenario could be a subcontracting arrangement, by which the United Nations tasks a regional organization to do all or part of its work. That option is particularly relevant when the use of a regional organization to address threats to peace is considered more effective than direct involvement by the United Nations.

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations will be viable when it develops on the basis of equal partnership. Nevertheless, my delegation believes that regional arrangements should not, in any way or shape, substitute for the United Nations role in the maintenance of peace and security. It is the primary responsibility of the United Nations, as stipulated in its Charter, to maintain international peace and security. The United Nations must remain the centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of peace and security, as you, Madam President, rightly stated during your opening remarks.

In order to ensure close collaboration between the United Nations and regional organizations, it is important to ensure not only that there is a legal foundation for such cooperation — such as

memorandums of understanding – but also that pertinent, mutually reinforcing structures exist within the two entities to maintain contacts.

As regards cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, my delegation is gratified that extensive work has already been done in this area. At the 2005 World Summit, Member States recognized the special needs of Africa and agreed to the development of a 10-year plan for capacity-building with the African Union. We are encouraged by the fact that, in November of last year, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairperson of the African Union signed a declaration entitled “Enhancing United Nations-African Union Cooperation: Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union”.

My delegation would also like to express its pleasure at the joint African Union/United Nations action plan for United Nations assistance for African Union peacekeeping capacity-building. We welcome the discussions between the African Union Peace Support Operations Division and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), which were held twice last year to identify specific areas in which the United Nations could respond to the capacity-building requirements of operationalizing the African Standby Force, for which a planned date of 2010 has been set.

We believe that both of those discussions were of paramount importance in ensuring effective joint responses to security challenges in the continent, as well as in clarifying lingering issues as to how best cooperation can be organized and effected in both general and specific areas.

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations – particularly between the United Nations and the African Union – is a significant multilateral engagement that we must all continue to encourage and contribute to. We believe that regional organizations could play a bigger role in contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security in the pursuit of more acceptable and comprehensive solutions to conflicts in various regions.

Indonesia wishes to reaffirm its support for the enhancement of cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, particularly the African Union, in whose region most of the conflicts have occurred. We are hopeful that that partnership can develop viable joint actions, not only to put an end to armed conflicts, which undermine the continent’s peace, prosperity and security, but also to promote the sustainable development of its States.

**Statement at 5655th meeting, Wednesday, 10 April 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in Africa)**

I wish to join others in welcoming Under-Secretary-General John Holmes to his first meeting with the Security Council and to thank him for his briefing on his recent visit to the Sudan, Chad and the Central African Republic. We share the view that the humanitarian situation in the region – in Darfur, eastern Chad and north-eastern Central African Republic – is a source of serious concern, especially as the environment has become even more challenging.

My delegation supports the observation that, unless there is a durable peaceful solution to the issue of Darfur, the humanitarian crisis in the region will be increasingly difficult to resolve. However, pending the emergence of peace in Darfur, all parties need to do their best to ensure that the humanitarian effort goes forward unimpeded.

We therefore welcome the recent signing of the joint communiqué between the Government of the Sudan and the United Nations on the facilitation of humanitarian activities in Darfur. We encourage the Government of the Sudan and the United Nations, as well as humanitarian organizations, to make the best use of such facilitation and therefore to help alleviate humanitarian suffering.

We believe that humanitarian needs must be addressed as a matter of priority. But the most imperative need is for a political settlement, which must be achieved as a final resolution of the humanitarian crisis in Darfur as well as a contribution to the settlement of the crises in eastern Chad and northern Central African Republic.

In that regard, we welcome the outcome of the recent meeting in Riyadh between the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the African Union (AU) chairpersons and the Secretary-General of the Arab League, with President Al-Bashir, particularly with regard to their commitment to redouble efforts to bring all parties into the peace process and to accelerate political reconciliation and their recognition of the need for the United Nations, the AU and the Arab League to work together to seek an early and comprehensive settlement of the conflict and to end the humanitarian suffering in Darfur.

With regard to the humanitarian situation in eastern Chad, we would like to hear further views of the Under-Secretary-General on how the United Nations could improve that situation pending the deployment of a United Nations monitoring and protection mission in the area.

**Statement at 5677th meeting, Monday, 21 May 2007, 10:30 a.m.
(Humanitarian situation in the Great Lakes region and the
Horn of Africa)**

I would like first of all to join others in welcoming Under-Secretary-General Holmes once again to the Security Council and in thanking him for his briefing on his visit to Somalia and Uganda.

My delegation shares the view that the humanitarian situation in the two regions under discussion remains deeply troubling. The humanitarian needs are particularly great in Somalia, owing to the scale of the recent crisis there. We are nonetheless encouraged by the gradual improvement in the Great Lakes region as peace emerges, albeit slowly, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in northern Uganda.

In Somalia, the deteriorating humanitarian situation is a matter of grave concern. We deeply regret Mogadishu's return to conflict and instability, especially given that it enjoyed a measure of peace and stability last year. Many of us have already referred to the current situation as the worst humanitarian crisis since the early 1990s. Indeed, an estimated 300,000 people have fled Mogadishu in recent months due to the heavy fighting; more than a thousand have

perished; and an additional 1.8 million people continue to be in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. All sides in Somalia must respect international humanitarian law, protect civilians and allow humanitarian access to those in need.

The deteriorating humanitarian situation is a direct consequence of the continued failure by Somali parties to find a political solution to their differences. It is therefore imperative that an all-inclusive national reconciliation process commence urgently, as called for in Security Council resolution 1744 (2007).

In the final analysis, the Somali problem is for the Somalis to resolve; the international community can only encourage and help the process to take place. In that regard, we support the Secretary-General's efforts to facilitate and assist in the reconciliation process. We commend the African Union for its efforts to find an early solution to the longstanding conflict, including through the deployment of the African Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). We condemn the recent killing of AMISOM personnel. We look forward to the full deployment of AMISOM and urge the international community to strengthen its assistance to AMISOM in the implementation of its mandate.

Turning to the Great Lakes region, my delegation also regrets that the humanitarian situation there remains grave. We are, however, hopeful that the current political resolution of some conflicts, such as those in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in northern Uganda, will bring relief and, indeed, a gradual improvement in the humanitarian situation.

With regard to Uganda, we support the "triple effort" approach being taken by the humanitarian community involving the provision of aid to those still in camps; assistance to those in the process of returning; and early recovery aid for those who have already returned to their homes. We share the view that greater efforts could be made to assist the more than one million displaced persons who are still living in the camps. We believe that progress on the political and diplomatic front, in particular with respect to the Juba peace talks, would lead to an improvement in the humanitarian situation, and we must therefore ensure the continuation and progress of the peace process.

My delegation stresses that, as the international community continues with its humanitarian assistance efforts as well as its support for the peace process, it is important also to start looking at how development assistance could also be provided in order to sustain the gains that are being made.

My delegation deems it essential that, in order to ensure the success of humanitarian efforts, such noble endeavours should always observe international principles of humanitarian assistance, which include respect for the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality; full respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of States and for the primary role of the affected State in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory; and, lastly, the observance of international and national laws as the basis for cooperation to address situations and to strengthen the emergency response capacity of affected countries.

Finally, in areas where humanitarian organizations operate, such as the Great Lakes region and the Horn of Africa, coordination with

the local authorities is imperative if the operation is to enjoy local ownership and be successful and sustainable. While the short-term needs of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) must be urgently addressed, it is also essential to ensure that the long-term social, economic and political impact on the local community remains beneficial.

**Statement at 5868th meeting, Wednesday, 16 April 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Peace and security in Africa)**

Allow me at the outset to express my appreciation to you, President Thabo Mbeki, for your initiative to convene this thematic debate on an issue of tremendous importance to the maintenance of international peace and security.

Before I proceed, I wish to reiterate Indonesia's long-standing and irrevocable commitment to Africa. The then-newly-independent Indonesia, though still in its infancy, had little hesitation in promoting the cause of Africa's independence struggle through the seminal Africa-Asia Conference held at Bandung in 1955. Since then we have contributed actively to United Nations peacekeeping operations on the continent: in the Congo in the 1960s, and then in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Mozambique, Namibia, Sierra Leone, Somalia and the Sudan.

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as in conflict prevention, is long-standing and is recognized in the Charter. It is a subject that has been gaining momentum and relevance, and rightly so: our increasingly complex and interconnected world, marked by a proliferation of actors and variables, requires us to look at issues in an ever more holistic and integrated manner. We simply do not have the luxury of remaining insulated or indifferent, as the destinies of all are intertwined and as conflicts in one region of the globe will sooner or later affect other regions.

Indonesia is an avid supporter of regional cooperation. We are convinced of the transformational potential of regional cooperation in preventing and settling conflict and bringing regional peace and stability in its place. Such conditions are prerequisites for economic development. Our own region's experience attests to that fact. Ensuring peace and security in South-East Asia for more than four decades, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has contributed immensely in shouldering burdens that would otherwise have fallen on the United Nations.

Indonesia is also a strong advocate for cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations. Of course, such cooperation is invaluable in strengthening and empowering regional organizations. It is not, however, a one-way process. Indonesia believes that the United Nations also benefits from such cooperation. After all, it would seem only natural that in dealing with particular conflict situations the United Nations should benefit from regional knowledge, perspectives and experiences. There is no need to reinvent the wheel. Synergy and partnership should be promoted.

Most recently the United Nations and the African Union (AU), as well as subregional organizations in Africa, have shown us that such cooperation can deliver tangible results. Challenges certainly remain. More support is obviously needed to enable the AU to respond to and deal more effectively with conflicts on the continent on behalf of the international community. The United Nations and the African Union must therefore enhance their capacity for confidence-building, friendly diplomacy and peacemaking and realize their full potential. The need for such an undertaking is self evident, for it is the undeniable reality of our time that conflict situations in Africa constitute significant portions of the Security Council's agenda. The reward for such an undertaking is therefore greater still.

Collaboration between the AU and the United Nations has the potential to transform conflict situations, bringing peace, stability and prosperity to the continent. We commend the AU for taking the lead in Somalia through the deployment of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), thus contributing to peace and security in that country. We call for more support for AMISOM by the international community. We also commend the AU for contributing to peace efforts in the Darfur region of the Sudan, where, with the consent of the parties, it deployed the African Union Mission in the Sudan (AMIS). The transformation of AMIS into a hybrid operation provides us with important lessons that help us to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations and the AU and are also valuable for other regional organizations. We have also drawn on the experience of the AU and the United Nations in conflict prevention and peacemaking to supplement our own experience in those fields.

Consistent with the statement of the President of the Security Council last November (S/PRST/2007/42), under Indonesia's presidency, we recognize that regional organizations need to strengthen and increase cooperation among themselves. In that regard the United Nations can provide its political support and technical expertise. Indeed, with you presiding over the Council today, Mr. President, I am particularly pleased to highlight the close cooperation that Indonesia and South Africa have forged in promoting interregional cooperation. I am referring to our joint efforts in promoting Asia-Africa strategic partnerships launched at Bandung in 2005 during the 50-year commemoration of the historic 1955 Asia-Africa Bandung Conference.

I would like to highlight in particular the Asian-African Subregional Organizations Conference (AASROC) meetings in Durban and Bandung, which preceded the second Asia-Africa Summit in 2005. AASROC is significant in its approach of promoting cooperation among regional and subregional organizations in Asia and Africa. Cooperation between regional organizations or arrangements is an essential feature of contemporary international architecture.

Indonesia has benefited from interregional collaboration. The European Union and ASEAN have contributed significantly to our successful efforts to restore peace and security in the province of Aceh during the period from 2005 to 2007, especially by participating in a joint monitoring mission to supervise the implementation of the Aceh peace agreement.

With regard to the current hub-and-spokes relationship between the United Nations and the regional organizations, we are in favour of its expansion into a one consisting of a hub and a network of spokes, a network of regional organizations working together to maintain peace and security, connected to each other and with the United Nations at the centre.

With regard to my own region of South-East Asia and its regional organizations, since the Security Council thematic debate last November (5776th meeting), the ten members of ASEAN have moved forward by signing the ASEAN Charter. The Charter represents not only our shared values and shared visions but also our commitment to progress in unison and to contribute to international peace and security. That is our contribution as the ASEAN community.

Our region can learn from the experiences and best practices of other regions, including Africa. However, to us the notion of receiving is tantamount to the notion of giving – to provide, to confer. In a world of plenty, giving is a feature to be embraced by all. Indonesia believes that ASEAN can also offer its experiences and best practices to other regions. To strengthen our outward-looking strategy we have cultivated dialogue-partner relationships with some ten countries and organizations. ASEAN's reach extends far beyond its immediate subregion. Above all, we are strengthening our links with the United Nations. We signed a memorandum of understanding on United Nations-ASEAN cooperation last September.

Our participation reflects not only our wish to share our views and experiences on the issues but also our desire to learn the views, lessons and best practices of other countries and other regions, which we can take home to our region. We also hope our experience can be useful to other regions in the interest of a more peaceful world for all.

**Statement at 5924th meeting, Tuesday, 24 June 2008, 3:30 p.m.
(Peace and security in Africa)**

Let me start by welcoming the Prime Minister of Djibouti, Mr. Dileita Mohamed Dileita, and his delegation to the Security Council. I should also like to thank you, Sir, for organizing this meeting in a timely manner in response to a request by a Member State, which, under Article 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, may bring any dispute to the attention of the Security Council. We appreciate the statements and explanations that have been given by the representatives of Djibouti and Eritrea. We also thank Mr. Honwana for the briefing he has given us.

The recent clash between Eritrea and Djibouti along their shared border deeply concerns us, as it is a breach of international peace and security. Above all, we are also very troubled at the prospect of a further aggravation of the already volatile situation in the Horn of Africa. It may be that neither side has the intention to allow the situation to slide into full-fledged conflagration. Notwithstanding their intentions, the situation could in fact develop in an unanticipated direction due to the chain of action-and-reaction and perception-and-misperception, and spiral towards wider confrontation. The resort to military force is unacceptable. We view this situation as very serious and warranting our continued vigilance.

We strongly encourage the parties to resort to peaceful dispute settlement mechanisms, in accordance with Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations, which urges that parties seek diplomatic and judicial approaches to dispute settlement, as well as the resort to regional agencies or other peaceful means of their choice.

Security and the sense of security are holistic and indivisible. Obviously, there is urgency to develop a sense of mutual security, both bilaterally and regionally, as one country's security cannot be achieved at the cost of another country's insecurity. Both Djibouti and Eritrea need to feel safe for security to be preserved.

We call upon both parties to move forward to resolve this dispute expeditiously in accordance with international law, including the acceptance of third-party mediation as necessary. We are cognizant of the importance of finding a mutually acceptable solution to the border conflict for both countries and recognize that their bilateral relations have been peaceful in the past. There is therefore still hope for a solution and all appropriate avenues should be pursued.

We appreciate and commend the role played by the African Union and the Arab League, as well as by third countries, as they assist in the conflict resolution and dispute settlement processes.

Ultimately, peace and stability along the border must be maintained. That quest for peace is even more critical in the light of the volatility in the Horn of Africa and the strategic value of the Babel-Mandeb Strait.

Finally, my delegation wishes to reiterate the sentiments expressed in the Council's presidential statement of 12 June 2008.

**Statement at 5933rd meeting, Friday, 11 July 2008, 4:10 p.m.
(Peace and security in Africa)**

Indonesia has been following the developments in Zimbabwe closely, and we wish to underline the significance of the negative reports of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the African Union and the Pan-African Parliament observers on the presidential run-off election held on 27 June 2008. Clearly, the conduct of elections has to be undertaken in a free and fair manner. We have been appalled by the political violence, intimidation and the loss of life that has occurred. We have also been concerned by reports of the prevailing dire humanitarian situation.

It is our hope that the people of Zimbabwe will be able to resolve the difficult situation they face in a peaceful and democratic manner and in accordance with Zimbabwe's own constitutional processes. The leaders of the country, in particular, are called upon to recognize the burden of responsibility on their shoulders and to leave no stone unturned in the quest to extricate Zimbabwe from its present predicament.

The people of Zimbabwe deserve international support in that endeavour. Indonesia wishes to acknowledge and reaffirm its support for the pivotal role being played in promoting political reconciliation among the political parties by SADC, by the facilitator of the intra-Zimbabwe dialogue, His Excellency Thabo Mbeki, President of South Africa, and by the African Union. Indeed, the recent African Union summit in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, was unequivocal in its support for

dialogue and reconciliation. We commend also the continued mediation efforts by the Secretary-General.

The Security Council, in synergy with such regional efforts, must also support the people of Zimbabwe in tackling the challenges before them. The promotion of peace, stability, reconciliation and democracy should guide our endeavours. In that, we cannot emphasize enough the importance of the Council working together with SADC and the African Union.

We wish also to emphasize the need for Council unity and a sense of common purpose in addressing this issue. The Security Council has proved able to speak with one voice through its presidential statement of 23 June 2008 (S/PRST/2008/23). It is preferable from our point of view that all Council decisions on the matter should be placed in the same spirit. That we must nurture and sustain.

We therefore deeply regret that the time allocated to discussing the draft resolution has not been sufficient and that flexibility has not yet been fully exercised enabling all members of the Council to fully engage in trying to reach a compromise on this matter.

In our view, any Security Council action must pass two key tests. First, it must serve to promote dialogue and reconciliation in Zimbabwe. In other words, it must provide encouragement and incentives to the political leaders of the country to set aside their differences and place the interests of the nation above anything else. Secondly, it must be in synergy with, and build on, regional efforts to address the issue.

In short, the Security Council must exert a positive influence. It should contribute to establishing sufficient space and the necessary conducive atmosphere to allow dialogue to take place and to succeed. Its members are required to diligently ensure that the measures the Council is contemplating would, in fact, promote solutions. At this juncture, my delegation has doubts whether the measures contained in the draft resolution would promote dialogue among the parties concerned.

In that regard, we are of the view that applying sanctions at this particular stage will not encourage all parties to the conflict to promote dialogue among themselves. Invoking sanctions will also jeopardize ongoing mediation efforts by regional organizations and neighbouring countries.

For those pertinent reasons my delegation will abstain in the vote on the draft resolution. In doing so, our delegation is also looking to the future, for there is a need to maintain the prospect of a united Security Council in addressing this matter in synergy with the regional efforts.

**Statement at 6000th meeting, Thursday, 23 October 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Peace and security in Africa)**

On behalf of the Indonesian delegation, I have the pleasure of welcoming the participation in today's Security Council meeting of the President of the Republic of Djibouti, His Excellency Mr. Ismail Omar Guelleh. We listened attentively to his statement and, of course, to the statement of the Permanent Representative of Eritrea.

The situation between Djibouti and Eritrea is a cause of concern for Indonesia. The situation poses real danger for both countries and, beyond, for the region. It is thus a problem that needs to be resolved peacefully.

We thank the Secretary-General for his follow-up to the Security Council's request to send a fact-finding mission to the region. We regret that the mission, while it visited Djibouti, was unable to go to Eritrea; this deprived us of an opportunity to have an explanation of the views of one of the key parties. We would benefit from clarification of the nature of the current situation from the perspective of all the parties. Today's deliberations will go some way in addressing that need.

The efforts of various parties, in particular the African Union, the League of Arab States and Intergovernmental Authority on Development, to assist in bridging the two parties' differences are welcome and should be commended.

The Security Council's consideration of the Djibouti-Eritrea issue needs not only to address the tension itself, but also to support the resolution of the underlying causes, including the border problem. The parties may deny having aggressive intentions, territorial ambitions or an intention to allow the situation to slide into a full blown conflagration, and indeed there are no reasons to believe otherwise. Notwithstanding their intentions, however, the situation could develop in an unanticipated direction and take on a logic of its own towards wider conflagration, as many conflicts do.

We therefore welcome the report of Djibouti's withdrawal of its forces to the status quo ante. A similar step by Eritrea would be equally welcome. Furthermore, both sides need to commence diplomatic and judicial approaches to settle their dispute, either directly or with the involvement of a third party. It is our belief that the resolution of the current crisis cannot be based on the status quo, which will not be sustainable. There is a danger in letting the situation on the border fester without a resolution.

We urge both countries to redouble their efforts to determine and demarcate their border as soon as possible. They need to come together to discuss and find mutually acceptable ways and means to do so. Both countries should see it as being in their vital interest to resolve the border problem peacefully.

Finally, we recognize the linkages between the tension between the two countries and the broader security issues in the Horn of Africa. The report of the United Nations fact-finding mission (S/2008/602) made a connection between this issue and the Eritrea-Ethiopia border problem. While we wish to avoid blurring the two issues, the fact that these countries are geographically in proximity to each other needs to be recognized.

2. Burundi

**Statement at 5786th meeting, Wednesday, 28 November 2007, 10:20 a.m.
(The situation in Burundi)**

We thank His Excellency Mr. Charles Nqakula, Minister of Safety and Security of South Africa and Facilitator of the Burundi Peace Process, for his briefing on the latest developments in the peace process in Burundi.

Our delegation would like to stress our support for the peace process in Burundi and the positive role played in that effort by the Facilitator personally, by the countries of the region through the Regional Initiative and, of course, by South Africa. In that regard, we are mindful of the importance of the establishment of a new Government in Burundi in November 2007 and view this more inclusive nature as a significant step in bringing opposition elements fully into the peace process. We hope that all political parties will be able to collaborate collectively in the interest of the country as a whole.

In this peace process we encourage the parties to implement all of the provisions agreed under the Dar es Salaam Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement of September 2006. Further, we call on all Burundian political stakeholders to maintain the spirit of dialogue, consensus-building and inclusiveness, including in addressing the issue of power-sharing in an equitable manner which has enabled them to achieve a successful transition in their country.

We also appreciate the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in supporting Burundi to achieve long-term peace and stability. We encourage the Government of Burundi to intensify its efforts in all aspects of security sector reform, particularly with respect to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, so that the presence of potentially armed elements and the incentives for conflict will be reduced. Related to security sector reform is the problem of small arms and other weapons in the country which also contribute to violence and instability. Efforts must be made to stem the flow of those weapons in order to create conditions conducive to peace. Once again, Indonesia would like to reiterate its support for the peace process in Burundi.

3. Congo

**Statement at 6025th meeting, Wednesday, 26 November 2008, 3:00 p.m.
(The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo)**

Let me first join previous speakers in thanking Special Representative Doss for his briefing. We should also like to welcome the presence of the Foreign Minister of Belgium and the participation of the Permanent Representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda in today's meeting.

We, too, are of the view that there is no military solution to the conflict. The Council and all the members of the international community therefore need to continue to urge all parties to re-engage in the political process in the frameworks of the Nairobi and Goma processes. The long-term success of the peace process in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo will depend not only on the sustained political engagement of all stakeholders, but also on the continued support of the country's international partners.

With regard to the issue of illegal armed groups in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, we wish to underscore that their existence and activities remain a core problem that needs urgent attention. All parties need urgently to implement all relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 1794 (2007), lay down their arms and engage voluntarily and without further delay or preconditions in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme. The United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), for its part, should continue its support in that regard.

The involvement of neighbouring States could further complicate the situation and escalate the existing tension in the region. At the same time, we recognize that the refugee issue and its spillover to neighbouring States would naturally create additional pressure for external intervention. The immediate neighbours of the Kivu provinces have enough of their own problems to contend with, let alone having to be prepared to address a massive humanitarian crisis. Moreover, fighting and instability could also spread across the border, raising further tensions in the region. All necessary steps should therefore be taken to address the cross-border issue consistently with the existing framework.

We continue to support the good offices of the Secretary-General, in particular his Special Envoy, to work with leaders in the region to find a solution to the problems underlying the conflict. We believe that the Special Envoy will continue to provide his able leadership to reverse the current escalation and coordinate the full implementation of the Nairobi communiqué and the Goma agreement.

With regard to the issue of MONUC's mandate, we support the recommendation of the Secretary-General that it be extended for the next 12 months. We also share the Secretary-General's views that MONUC's mandate should be carefully reviewed over the next mandate period. In that context, we wish to underline the importance of retaining the issue of the protection of civilians as the focus of MONUC's next mandate. We would also like to emphasize that under the existing Council resolution, MONUC has a mandate to use all necessary means to protect civilians under imminent threat of physical violence. We are hopeful that the temporary increase of MONUC's military strength, pursuant to resolution 1843 (2008), will enable MONUC to reinforce its capacity to protect civilians.

Finally, while most of our attention is focused on the problem in the Kivu provinces, we should also remain vigilant with regard to the security situation in other parts of the country. It is important for the Council to ensure that the deployment of MONUC resources mostly in the eastern part of the country will not create a security vacuum in other parts of the country that could then become vulnerable to a possible outbreak of violence.

**Statement at 6044th meeting, Monday, 15 December 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council)**

With your permission, Sir, I would like to share with members of the Council some reflections in my personal capacity on the work of the three subsidiary bodies of the Security Council to which you just referred: the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda, and the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations.

I would like at the outset to refer to the sanctions Committee on the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In general terms, the measures established and progressively adapted by the Security Council in resolutions 1493 (2003), 1596 (2005), 1698 (2006), 1771 (2007) and 1807 (2008) aim at preventing all rebel groups operating in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo from being supplied with arms and/or participating in military activities. Adopted on 31 March 2008, resolution 1807 (2008) marked an important watershed in the duration of the sanctions regime. While supplier States continue to be required by the resolution to notify the sanctions Committee of arms shipments to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to include in such notifications all relevant information – including, where appropriate, the end user, the proposed date of delivery and the itinerary of shipments – the Security Council effectively lifted the arms embargo on the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Resolution 1807 (2008) was also adopted by the Council with a view to simplifying the sanctions regime and improving the implementation of the arms embargo, for instance by terminating the requirement on the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to designate receiving sites for the authorized shipments of arms and related materiel. One could make the case, in fact, that the introduction of more clarity and the simplification of the sanctions regime played a positive role in the renewed cooperation which the Democratic Republic of the Congo authorities extended to the Group of Experts, as noted in the Group's final report submitted this month.

During the course of 2008, the Committee proactively conducted its work and convened a number of sessions of informal consultations, the majority of which were held to discuss the reports of the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including possible actions to be taken by the Committee arising from the Group's recommendations.

In connection with the list of individuals and entities subject to the measures imposed under paragraphs 13 and 15 of resolution 1596 (2005), the Committee acted on new information conveyed by the Group of Experts and Member States by updating the list and with a view to providing Member States with the most accurate information possible to facilitate implementation of the measures imposed on listed individuals and entities. Implementation is hindered, however, when listed individuals have no tangible assets or do not travel across

international borders, thus limiting the impact of the assets freeze and travel ban.

The Committee also considered four requests in 2008 for de-listing. In terms of proposals for listing, the Committee currently has under consideration a request submitted by the Permanent Representative of Rwanda in May 2008, whose delegation transmitted a list of individuals to the Committee, requesting their inclusion in the list.

Further to its efforts to engage with Member States, the Committee continued its practice of acknowledging notifications received by supplier States during the course of 2008. However, challenges remain, as only seven notifications have been received by the Committee since the adoption of resolution 1807 (2008) on 31 March 2008.

The Committee also interacted with a number of Member States in connection with a request for exemption to the assets freeze, and transmitted a number of letters to Member States drawing their attention to the recommendations contained in various reports of the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Committee also addressed letters to a number of international organizations, drawing their attention to possible areas of assistance to reinforce the capacity of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to fully implement the arms embargo.

The Group of Experts has played an instrumental role in monitoring the sanctions regime and in facilitating action by the Committee towards the improvement of the implementation of the sanctions regime. As part of these efforts, the Group collaborated extensively with the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to analysing information gathered by the Mission on the ground that is relevant to the mandate of the Group and the Committee.

As highlighted in the latest report of the Group of Experts, many challenges remain towards achieving full implementation of the sanctions regime. It is unfortunate that, several years after the adoption of the Committee's travel ban and assets freeze against individuals and entities violating the arms embargo, the level of awareness and implementation of such measures remain very limited. To that end, the full collaboration and engagement of States in the region are essential.

Looking back over the course of 2008, I have relied on the support and the flexibility of members in moving the Committee's work forward. As Chairman, I have endeavoured to engage actively with my colleagues to bridge differences and build the consensus that is very crucial to the work of the Committee.

Looking forward, it is my personal view that the final report of the Group of Experts submitted this month has broken new ground in terms of the Committee's and the Council's understanding of the support networks for the two major rebel groups in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda and the Congrès national pour la défense du peuple, particularly these groups' financial networks. It is my hope that, in 2009, the Committee and the Council will actively use the sanctions regime as a positive instrument that can be integrated into a wider political strategy to end a conflict which has so deeply harmed

the civilian population in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and to reinforce the Government's efforts to exercise authority in the eastern part of the country. This may also include the Committee's engaging further with States in the region and other States with a view to ensuring increased compliance with the sanctions regime.

Let me now turn to the sanctions Committee on Rwanda. As Council members are aware, the Security Council decided in resolution 1823 (2008), adopted in July, to dissolve the Committee. The Security Council also decided in that resolution to terminate the remaining measures relating to Rwanda.

It will be recalled that the Committee was established in 1994 to oversee the arms embargo and to undertake other tasks mandated by the Security Council. In subsequent years, the complete arms embargo and other measures were gradually terminated by the Security Council. In 2007, for example, the Security Council, in its resolution 1749 (2007), terminated the notification requirement for the delivery of arms to the Government of Rwanda.

Prior to its termination, the Committee met on 11 April 2008, at which time members noted that it had been largely inactive over the past 10 years and that the signing of the Nairobi joint communiqué of November 2007 could be seen as a sign of the continued improvement of the political climate in the subregion. It was also noted that the termination of an inactive subsidiary body could be seen as a good business practice that could help rationalize the functions of the Security Council. Some members expressed the view that the termination of the sanctions regime should be considered a technical rather than a political matter. Committee members agreed that I should recommend the dissolution of the Committee, which I subsequently did on 22 May. The Security Council agreed with that view.

Let me now make a few observations regarding the work on the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations. The Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations met on 27 March 2007. The meeting took up two subjects: surge in peacekeeping operations and security sector reform. The members of the Working Group expressed their views on the various related issues and provided suggestions on enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations peacekeeping system.

On 26 March 2008, the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations again convened to exchange views on issues related to United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE). The members of the Security Council, a number of the troop-contributing countries to UNMEE, and representatives of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support participated in the meeting.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Permanent Representatives of Costa Rica and Viet Nam, who serve as Vice-Chairs of the Sanctions Committee on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as the Permanent Representative of Italy, who serves as Vice-Chair of the Sanctions Committee on Rwanda, for their respective support and assistance.

I also thank all delegations for their constructive cooperation with the Chair.

I also wish to convey my appreciation to the Security Council Subsidiary Organs Branch, led by Mr. Aleksandar Martinovic. In

particular, I would like to thank Mr. David Biggs, Ms. Francesca Jannotti-Pecchi and Mr. James Sutterlin for their untiring support to the work of the Chair.

3. Cote d'Ivoire

**Statement at 5765th meeting, Monday, 22 October 2007, 10:20 a.m.
(The situation in Cote d'Ivoire)**

At the outset, I wish to thank Mr. Djibrill Bassolé, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Burkina Faso, who is with us today as representative of the Facilitator, President Compaore, for his statement on the development of the peace process in Côte d'Ivoire. We also wish to thank the Principal Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Abou Moussa, for his briefing and to the Secretary-General for his report on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire (S/2007/593).

We are mindful of the positive political atmosphere that has prevailed in Côte d'Ivoire since the signing of the Ouagadougou Agreement. However, we are somewhat discouraged by the possible implications of lapses in the timelines for the implementation of important tasks identified in the Agreement, as referred to by previous speakers.

We recognize the importance of the planning and financial and logistical resources necessary to ensure an accelerated and sustained implementation of the Agreement. Continued international support for capacity-building, including its timely channelling, is therefore essential. However, it is important to underline the special responsibility of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to give added impetus to the implementation of the Ouagadougou Agreement.

A key to progress in the implementation of the Agreement is a secure security situation. We are encouraged to note the Secretary-General's assessment that the country has remained generally calm since the signing of the Agreement in March 2007. At the same time, we are mindful of the continued fragile nature of the security situation, as evidenced, inter alia, by the 29 June 2007 incident and the situation in the north of the country. We commend the efforts by President Gbagbo and Prime Minister Soro in overcoming any attempts to disrupt the peace process. Continued international support in enhancing the security conditions through the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) is critical.

My delegation is also deeply troubled by reports of trafficking of children for labour and prostitution, as part of the growing problem of human trafficking for forced prostitution and labour in the country. Support for the enhancement of national capacities to deal with those issues should be a priority.

We also deem it important that issues regarding the conduct of personnel and discipline in UNOCI, as mentioned in the report, be fully addressed.

We concur with the view of the Secretary-General that, since progress on the two key benchmarks to review the mandate and troop

levels of UNOCI has not yet been achieved, we should maintain the current troop levels.

We have consistently been of the view that the United Nations must remain closely engaged with and supportive of the people and the Government of Côte d'Ivoire in their difficult journey towards a peaceful and prosperous country. We are therefore extremely pleased to be informed of the appointment of Mr. Choi Young-jin as the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire.

4. Guinea Bissau

**Statement at 5988th meeting, Tuesday, 7 October 2008, 10:30 a.m.
(The situation in Guinea-Bissau)**

Let me first of all join previous speakers in thanking Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Lynn Pascoe for his briefing, as well as, of course, the Permanent Representative of Brazil Ambassador Viotti, as the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, for her statement.

As stated in the report (S/2008/628) of the Secretary-General, and having been identified as one of the peacebuilding challenges, the upcoming legislative elections scheduled for 16 November 2008 are indeed an important landmark in the effort to achieve sustainable peace in the country.

At this important juncture, it is important that the international community continue its sustained assistance to Guinea-Bissau. Continued support in the areas of development and security could contribute greatly to the efforts of Guinea-Bissau to consolidate peace and stability in the country and the subregion.

With regard to the work of the Peacebuilding Commission, Indonesia welcomes and supports the adoption of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau on 1 October 2008, which was the result of an extensive consultative process involving all the relevant stakeholders. Most important of all, the Framework observes a nationally owned process.

We share a common concern with the Secretary-General regarding drug trafficking. Guinea-Bissau is increasingly not merely a transit hub but rather a major marketplace for the drug trade. In order to address that grave problem, we are of the view that the country should build on the December 2007 Lisbon International Conference on Drug Trafficking in Guinea-Bissau. It should bring to bear the efforts of all stakeholders, which came together successfully in "Operation Bissalanca" this past July. My delegation also welcomes the convening of a regional conference by the Economic Community of West African States on combating drug trafficking, which is to be held later this month in Cape Verde. Close cooperation among neighbouring countries of the subregion has the potential to deal with the menace posed by drug trafficking, which is a borderless and transnational form of organized crime.

Drug trafficking and organized crime should be recognized as unintended products of the continuing challenges in institutional and

economic development and of the lack of governing capacity, which needs to be addressed. Like in similar cases in many other parts of the world, we believe that what is needed for Guinea-Bissau is also a concerted effort to build the national capacities needed to overcome drug trafficking and organized crime. In that regard, we need to respond positively to the appeal of national authorities for international support to combat drug trafficking. The international community is therefore called on to lend its full support to the efforts of the Government of Guinea-Bissau in strengthening its legal, law enforcement and judicial institutions to deal with those criminal acts.

Strengthened law enforcement and judicial institutions will accordingly be in a sound position to identify those who are involved in those activities and to bring them to justice in accordance with the country's national laws and regulations. It is through that emphasis on the building of national capacity that we view the efficacy of punitive sanctions and the possible establishment of a panel of experts by the Security Council.

We are of the view that the Security Council could continue to play its role by encouraging a more coherent and holistic approach by international stakeholders, and in particular by the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS), in order to contribute to the establishment of peace, stability and prosperity in Guinea-Bissau. The placement of Guinea-Bissau on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission makes it clear that the country has graduated from conflict to the post-conflict phase, in which internal consolidation and national capacity building are key.

Lastly, let me reiterate Indonesia's continued support for UNOGBIS in helping to consolidate peace, democracy and the rule of law in Guinea-Bissau. My delegation would also like to commend the crucial role being played by the Peacebuilding Commission, in particular by its Guinea-Bissau configuration.

5. Sierra Leone

**Statement at 5690th meeting, Friday, 8 June 2007, 3:00 p.m.
(The situation in Sierra Leone)**

First of all, let me join others in thanking the President of the Court, the Prosecutor of the Court and the Deputy Secretary-General for their briefings.

Indonesia welcomes the Special Court's steady progress towards the fulfilment of its mandate and the implementation of its completion strategy.

Indonesia consistently condemns gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. The perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity, as well as other serious crimes, must be brought to justice.

In this regard, we welcome the start of the trials of individuals, including the trial of Charles Taylor by the Special Court for Sierra Leone in The Hague. This trial could greatly contribute to the strengthening of the rule of law and also create confidence in the

people of West Africa and beyond that there is no impunity for crime, no matter how powerful the perpetrators may be. We hope that the trial will be conducted fairly in accordance with international standards and with respect to the presumption of innocence unless proven otherwise.

Despite the current efforts by the Government of Sierra Leone, there is much more to be done in healing the wounds of the people and in consolidating peace. It is hard to console the people of Sierra Leone who were battered by the actions of Charles Taylor for six horrendous years. We expect and are hopeful, therefore, that his trial will contribute to advancing national reconciliation and to furthering the sense of accountability among the public.

At the same time, we believe that it is important for the Security Council to focus on the big picture of the country. While we fully support the Special Court for Sierra Leone, my delegation considers it to be one of the several critical means to achieve a sustainable peace in Sierra Leone, which will reduce the chances of relapsing into conflict.

With most institutions ravaged by the 10-year civil war, it is understandable that the Government is still facing difficulties with its present scarce resources and inadequate infrastructure. The international community therefore needs to step up its support to the Government of Sierra Leone not only in assisting it in the conduct of upcoming elections, but in helping it to expand its capacities across the various sectors for the long-term recovery.

To conclude, Indonesia is hopeful that the process of the Special Court for Sierra Leone will run smoothly within the time frame of the mandate, leading to the strengthening of peace and harmony in Sierra Leone.

6. Somalia

**Statement at 5805th meeting, Monday, 17 December 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in Somalia)**

Let me begin by joining previous speakers in welcoming the Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mr. Ould Abdallah, and thanking him for his update on the situation in Somalia. We also thank the representative of Somalia for his statement. My delegation appreciates this opportunity to receive an in-depth update about Somalia, given that the Council must contribute to managing and resolving the 17-year-old conflict in that country — not only due to increasing humanitarian suffering but also because of the Council's responsibilities under the Charter to address threats to international peace and security.

We welcome Mr. Ould Abdallah's efforts to promote dialogue, consultations and reconciliation in the country, as well as his leading role in fostering greater unity of action by the international community. We urge him to continue with his commendable efforts for greater international awareness of the Somali issue. We note the idea of a new agenda for peace and stability in Somalia and wish to be

continually updated on the development of a harmonized approach among all partners under the leadership of the United Nations.

We welcome the appointment of Mr. Nur Hassan Hussein as the new Prime Minister of Somalia. We believe that the continued divisions in Somalia, both within the transitional federal institutions and between the Transitional Federal Government and the opposition, are the main obstacles to any possible progress on the political front. It is therefore crucial that Mr. Hussein's Government strengthen all-inclusive dialogue and consultations with all Somali stakeholders, with a view to achieving unity of purpose and political direction.

Indonesia supports the two-track approach of a political track and a security or peacekeeping track as the main thrust of the Security Council's efforts. On the political track, we are of the view that the primary task for Somalis should be the completion of the tasks set in the Transitional Federal Charter. In particular, efforts should be focused on the constitutional process, preparation for the national population census and the holding of the elections scheduled for 2009. We look to the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) to support this effort and to play a leading role in channelling and coordinating all international assistance for Somalia.

On the peacekeeping track, Indonesia favours the deployment of a United Nations multidimensional peacekeeping force. At the moment, when United Nations deployment is still under thorough assessment and consideration, a greater technical, logistical and financial support for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) is absolutely essential and urgently needed. We commend Ugandan troops on the ground for their efforts and wish to express our appreciation to Member States that have provided naval protection for shipments of humanitarian aid against piracy and armed robbery along the coast of Somalia. We believe that a United Nations force should in time be deployed to Somalia, and we encourage the Security Council and the Secretary-General to continue to work on contingency planning.

Indonesia is in favour of the Secretary-General's intention, as stated in his report (S/2007/658), to elaborate a two-track approach for Somalia. A strengthened UNPOS should be able to support such an approach. Contingency planning for a possible United Nations peacekeeping component will need to be developed in coordination with and with the support of UNPOS and in keeping with the overall political track. Moreover, the establishment in the Secretariat of an interdepartmental and inter-agency integrated task force on Somalia is welcomed, in particular to develop a coherent peacebuilding strategy for Somalia.

The continued presence of foreign troops in Somalia has been reflected in part in the hardening stance of the opposition and the intensification of the insurgency, making any resolution even more difficult. The international community therefore must contribute to a conducive situation for the withdrawal of all foreign forces that are not part of AMISOM.

Finally, we call on all parties to respect international humanitarian law. It is unacceptable that innocent civilians continue to become the victims of this protracted conflict. We appeal once again to all those with weapons, whether Government, insurgent, or Ethiopian troops, to cease indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks affecting civilians. Ultimately, Somalia needs a political and security resolution,

but in the meantime, humanitarian assistance and access must be enhanced. We call on the international community to increase their assistance to Somalia, including to the consolidated appeal for Somalia, and we call on the Somali authorities to facilitate and widen access for humanitarian assistance.

**Statement at 5902nd meeting, Monday, 2 June 2008, 3:15 p.m.
(The situation in Somalia)**

Having a long-standing history of cooperation with the friendly country of Somalia, Indonesia has always joined others in assisting Somalia in meeting the major challenges that have afflicted its stability and security for almost 17 years now. My delegation would therefore like to reiterate that Indonesia fully supports the request of Somalia – as reflected in the letter of the Transitional Federal Government to the President of the Council – for assistance from the international community in its efforts to address acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia.

In attempting to formulate a positive response to the Somali request in the form of the draft resolution upon which the Council is about to take a decision, Indonesia is guided by the proposition that any draft should be formulated in consistency with two fundamental principles.

First, the draft resolution shall be consistent with international law, particularly the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) of 1982, and shall not envisage any modification of the existing, carefully balanced international law of the sea, which is encapsulated in the constitution of the ocean, that is, UNCLOS, which was brought into being after decades of negotiation. It shall also not become a basis of customary international law for the repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea. Actions envisaged in the draft resolution shall only apply to the territorial waters of Somalia, based upon its prior consent.

Secondly, the draft resolution must address solely the specific situation of piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia, as requested by the Somali Government.

Like Somalia and most other Members of the United Nations, Indonesia is a faithful party to UNCLOS, of 1982. Consequently, we have legal obligations to preserve the rights, obligations and responsibilities of Member States derived from it, as those were carefully negotiated in order to ensure, in a balanced manner, the interest of coastal and user States. A burden of responsibility rests upon us all to maintain the Convention's integrity and sanctity. Thus, it is our duty to voice strong reservations if there are actions envisaged by the Council or any other forum that could lead to modifying, rewriting or redefining UNCLOS, of 1982.

Ample safeguards, therefore, need to be imbedded, ensured and maintained. We are pleased in this regard that that is reflected in the formulation of paragraph 9 of the draft resolution (S/2008/351), which states, *inter alia*,

“That the authorization provided in this resolution ... shall not affect the rights or obligations or responsibilities of Member States under international law, including any rights or obligations under

the Convention, ... and ... it shall not be considered as establishing customary international law.”

The constitution of the ocean, which provides guiding principles for all activities pertaining to the use of the sea and ocean affairs, including international cooperation for the repression of piracy and armed robbery against vessels, is thus not modified, rewritten or redefined. It is in the interests of all that any actions against illegal or criminal acts shall not violate existing laws and norms.

We are mindful of the specific situation of Somalia. The continued political instability that has constantly faced that country has led to the inability of its law enforcement to maintain stability and security. That situation occurs not only on its mainland but also extends to the waters off the coast of Somalia. Thus, we understand that the unique situation of Somalia requires an exceptional measure by the international community to deal with the problem of piracy and armed robbery against vessels. In that regard, the request and consent of the Somali Government serves as the legal basis for the Council to formulate appropriate responses within the parameters of international law, in particular UNCLOS, of 1982.

While we are mindful that piracy and armed robbery at sea would affect the safety of international navigation, we constantly are of the view that the Council needs to exercise caution in trying to address such acts in other parts of the globe. We are pleased in this context that such caution is exercised in paragraph 14, which reads as follows:

“Requests the Secretary-General of the IMO to brief the Council on the basis of cases brought to his attention by the agreement of all affected coastal States and duly taking into account the existing bilateral and regional cooperative arrangements, on the situation with respect to piracy and armed robbery”.

This caution, undoubtedly, once again reflects the unwavering commitment of the Council to uphold international law in spirit and in letter — nothing more, nothing less. Indonesia strongly believes that the principle of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, as enshrined in the Charter, has to be espoused by the Council at all times. We consider that in exercising its mandate for the maintenance of international peace and security, it is possible for the Council to act without having to challenge the integrity of international law; that can certainly be done. Those two objectives are mutually reinforcing, not mutually exclusive. The stability and predictability of the international system that we all treasure are ensured as long as those two objectives continue to serve us in guiding our work. Today, the Council will shortly confirm that that is the case.

As it stands, we view that the current text has accommodated those two fundamental principles, as my delegation stated earlier. Those are: consistency with UNCLOS; and the specific situation of piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia. After all, the text is first and foremost about Somalia. It is about how the Council, together with the international community, can assist Somalia to fight that crime. This text will ensure that Somalia will be the beneficiary of our common efforts.

Before concluding my remarks, I wish to express my delegation’s gratitude for the understanding shown by all members of the Council. The spirit of cooperation and resourcefulness exercised by the sponsors has led us to this consensus text that meets the needs and

legitimate interests of all members of the Council. For those pertinent reasons, my delegation is now ready to support it.

**Statement at 6020th meeting, Thursday, 20 November 2008, 10:30 a.m.
(The situation in Somalia)**

Let me begin by joining previous speakers in thanking Assistant Secretary-General Menkerios and Mr. Zenenga for their briefings. We welcome the participation of the Permanent Representative of Somalia and the Permanent Observer of the African Union. We also welcome the participation of the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization in today's meeting, in accordance with resolution 1816 (2008). We are thankful for their respective statements.

The statements that we have heard this morning and the Secretary-General's report (S/2008/709) clearly caution us that, while we may have reason to be optimistic that the parties in Somalia are going to make further progress in forging a political solution, their efforts are taking place against the tide of the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation. It is most unfortunate that the situation in Somalia is at a stage where a military solution is becoming more attractive and appearing to be more achievable to some Somali parties than it was a year or so ago. That is evidenced by the expansion of territorial control and other successes of the opposition armed groups.

The leaders and the people of Somalia are ultimately responsible for the fate of their country. All of them without exception need to come together and agree on a political framework to achieve peace and to decide on what should follow the transitional period. Therefore, the commitment to the Djibouti process and to the agreement to cease armed hostilities signed on 26 October are welcome, and we look forward to their ongoing compliance.

The international community clearly has no magic wand for resolving the Somali situation, but it could – and obviously should – do more to help the Somalis to settle one of the most persistent situations of violence and humanitarian suffering. The political process, including the coordinating role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, requires sustained international support. We welcome the contribution of the members of the international community to the Djibouti process. The unity of efforts with the strong coordinating role of the Special Representative is more crucial now that circumstances are increasingly challenging.

The resolution adopted today on the expansion of the sanctions regime against Somalia will, we hope, contribute to the early establishment of peace and stability in Somalia. On the peacekeeping track, it will be useful and perhaps unavoidable to presume a hostile environment. The Secretary-General makes that point clear in the report. In reality, it is a prerequisite for any kind of deployment that it enjoy the consent and acceptance of the leaders and a majority of the population of Somalia. The political framework therefore remains key to the success of United Nations involvement.

What is essential at this stage is the continued planning for and exploring of options and contributions. We want to ensure that, when the time comes for the international community to deploy a force, United Nations Member States and the Secretariat are well prepared.

In the meantime, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) remains central. We welcome the Secretary-General's continued support for AMISOM, but the urgent resolve of the United Nations and the international community to strengthen support for AMISOM is needed. AMISOM is facing greater challenges and, at the same time, is called on by the Djibouti agreement to assume greater responsibilities.

Finally, turning to the issue of piracy, we would like to reiterate our condemnation and deplore all acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships in the waters off the coast of Somalia. We would also like to extend our sympathies to the flag States and others that have fallen prey to such illegal acts. We are constantly reminded by the incidents that take place on an almost daily basis of the seriousness of the issue. Not only is it a threat to humanitarian assistance to Somalia and to the security of maritime activities off the coast of Somalia, but it also has an adverse impact on the social and economic of the affected countries.

For that reason, Indonesia supported resolution 1816 (2008) and 1838 (2008). They provide the required legal framework for assisting Somalia in fighting piracy and armed robbery against ships off the coast of that country. There can be no doubt of the importance of enhancing States' cooperation in curbing such acts. The issue of piracy off the coast of Somalia, however, as we and others have reiterated on various occasions, including in today's discussion, is the by-product of lawlessness and the lack of law enforcement capacity. The key to combating piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia lies in the political process, which needs to be continuously supported by the international community, including the Security Council.

**Statement at 6027th meeting, 2 December 2008, 11:45 a.m.
(The situation in Somalia)**

My delegation voted in favour of resolution 1846 (2008) on the basis of a number of considerations, and we would like to put them on record.

The security situation off the coast of Somalia has deteriorated markedly due to acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea. These acts have become more blatant and impose greater costs on the international community, in particular the transportation of humanitarian assistance into Somalia and the security of international navigation in the area. They have also had an adverse impact on the social and economic lives of the affected countries. We condemn and deplore all acts of piracy and armed robbery against vessels in the waters off the coast of Somalia. We would also like to extend our strong support to the flag States and others who have already fallen prey to such illegal acts.

We fully support concerted measures to assist Somalia in fighting such acts. Let there be no doubt of the importance of enhancing cooperation and, not least, coordination among States in curbing such acts. Resolution 1816 (2008) and subsequent resolutions, including the one that we have just adopted, provides a strong legal foundation for States to meet this objective.

We remain convinced, however, that the root cause of the piracy threat is the situation in Somalia itself, which is due to political conflict, lawlessness and lack of capacity for law enforcement. While the international community needs to address the scourge of piracy off the coast of Somalia, it is ultimately on the ground that the international community needs to translate its words into deeds. This includes greater support for the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) and the political process in the short term, and the mustering of international military resources in the medium to long term.

Finally, our support for the resolution is based on the fact that it seeks to help Somalia, is focused on Somalia and spells out clearly that its provisions shall not affect the rights, obligations or responsibilities of Member States under international law, including under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and shall not be considered as establishing customary international law.

**Statement at 6047th meeting, Wednesday, 17 December 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in Somalia)**

Before I make our general statement, allow me to present Indonesia's position on the resolution that the Council has just adopted. My delegation voted in favour of resolution 1851 (2008) as a reflection of its recognition of the gravity of the threat of piracy in the waters off Somalia. In doing so, however, we do not lose sight of the fact that, in the final analysis, the solution to that threat lies with Somalia itself. Thus we wish to underscore once again the need to promote conditions conducive to the promotion of the political process in that country.

In that connection, we would like to underline the need to ensure that the measures foreseen in paragraph 6 of the resolution do not inadvertently complicate the search for such a political solution to the crisis in Somalia. We also wish to underline the need to ensure that the measures foreseen in the same paragraph do not exacerbate the humanitarian situation in the country and are taken in full compliance with applicable international humanitarian and human rights law.

Furthermore, we wish to emphasize that there exists a range of measures to address the threat of piracy in Somalia. In other words, the resolution is not exclusively about the use of forcible measures. We wish to highlight in particular the importance of legal enforcement measures.

My delegation commends the recognition in the resolution of the need to promote coordination between States and regional organizations fighting the threat of piracy in Somalia, as well as the recognition of the importance of building Somalia's national capacity to deal with that menace.

My delegation wishes to underscore that, first and foremost, the measures contemplated under the resolution, as with other previous resolutions, stem from the request of the State concerned, namely, Somalia.

Finally, our support for the resolution is based on the fact that it is focused on Somalia and spells out clearly that its provisions shall not affect the rights, obligations or responsibilities of Member States

under international law, including under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and shall not be considered as establishing customary international law.

8. Sudan

**Statement at 5784th meeting, Tuesday, 27 November 2007, 3:00 p.m.
(Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan)**

We join others in welcoming the Special Envoy for Darfur, Mr. Jan Eliasson, and thanking him for his briefing on the political process on Darfur. Our thanks go also to the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, for his update on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).

It has been one year since the United Nations, the African Union (AU) and the Government of the Sudan agreed in Addis Ababa, on 16 November 2006, to work on three broad fronts to resolve the Darfur crisis: the political process, the deployment of a peacekeeping operation and the strengthening of the ceasefire. We are making some headway on two of them – the political and peacekeeping tracks – as today's briefings illustrate. However, the briefings also reveal the challenges we continue to face.

My delegation acknowledges that giving more time to the rebel movements may be necessary in order to allow them to arrive at a common platform, needed to facilitate the next negotiating stage with the Government of the Sudan. Such efforts are called for because of the need to facilitate the talks. We support the Mediation's approach of involving Darfur's civil society and other stakeholders, thus providing as wide a basis as possible for the peace process. We also encourage countries in the region to continue with their constructive roles in supporting the political process. We underline the importance of support by Member States for the political process and of encouraging all rebel movements to participate in the talks.

While more time is needed, my delegation is troubled by the postponement in establishing a cessation of hostilities, which is crucial not only for Darfur's civilian population but also for peace in Darfur, as it would strengthen confidence-building and foster a conducive environment for negotiations. We therefore appreciate the ceasefire announced by the Government of the Sudan.

In spite of delays on the political front, the peacekeeping track should move forward within its already determined time frame, which would also enable it to support the political process. We therefore encourage the Secretariat to continue to work with troop-contributing countries, including obtaining critical force enablers, such as ground transport and helicopter capabilities. The international community should not retreat from the commitment it made in Addis Ababa last year and in resolution 1769 (2007) on supporting the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation. We also encourage the Secretariat to continue to consult with the Sudanese authorities,

with a view to agreeing, as soon as possible, on remaining technical issues.

We underline the point in the Secretary-General's report (S/2007/653) about the perpetrators of the attack against the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) in Haskanita two months ago. This attack demonstrates not only the urgency of deploying a robust and credible force in Darfur, but also the need for the Council to take resolute action against such perpetrators. The Hybrid Operation needs and deserves the Council's full and unwavering backing. The troop- and police-contributing countries, on which the Council relies to establish and enforce its mandate, deserve nothing less than our full support.

On the humanitarian aspect of the Darfur problem, we welcome the fact that the March 2007 joint communiqué has significantly facilitated humanitarian operations in Darfur, as reported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. However, we are deeply concerned that reprehensible attacks against humanitarian workers have continued. We are concerned that vehicles belonging to international non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies are frequent targets for carjacking by non-State armed groups. Attacks against those employed in the service of peace violate not only the laws of war, but also our moral sensibilities and should not be allowed to continue.

In closing, I should like to reaffirm Indonesia's strong support for the Secretary-General's Special Envoy, Mr. Jan Eliasson, and the African Union Special Envoy, Mr. Salim Salim, in continuing with their efforts in the Darfur political process.

**Statement at 5789th meeting, Wednesday, 5 December 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan)**

Allow me, first, to congratulate you, Mr. President, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for the month of December and to assure you of my delegation's full support in the conduct of your work. I should also like to thank you for the kind words addressed to Indonesia as President of the Council for the month of November.

We thank Mr. Moreno-Ocampo for his briefing regarding the activities of the International Criminal Court (ICC) since June 2007.

Various atrocities continue to be committed by all sides in Darfur. We note that since the Prosecutor's briefing last June, the ICC has delivered requests to the Government of the Sudan for the arrest and surrender of certain individuals. Those requests were also reiterated in statements by the Prosecutor and Court officials, including by the President of the ICC to the General Assembly. My delegation notes and appreciates the Prosecutor's efforts to pursue contacts with the Sudan's neighbours, the United Nations Secretariat, the African Union (AU), the League of Arab States, local groups, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and others. We also note the Prosecutor's position that alleged attacks committed by rebel factions against peacekeepers and humanitarian convoys warrant further investigations.

It is deeply troubling that the conflict in Darfur is continuing, with the attending consequences of a worsening humanitarian situation. The displacement of the population, the deliberate attacks on civilians, humanitarian personnel and peacekeepers as well as tribal clashes can, if unchecked, only create more difficulties for the establishment of peace. The civilian toll of the conflict also gives us pause. It has also been the worst year for the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) peacekeepers in terms of staff killed and wounded – more than half of the AMIS personnel killed since the mission's deployment in 2004 were killed this year. The Council condemned the Haskanita attack against AMIS at the end of September, which killed 10 AU peacekeepers. The Council has also demanded that no effort be spared to identify and bring to justice the perpetrators.

My delegation condemns the continued gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Darfur. These crimes are egregious affronts to the norms, rules and collective conscience of the international community. The perpetrators of those acts must be brought to justice. We extend our deepest sympathies and solidarity to the victims for their suffering, as well as to the people of the Sudan, who continue to face the impact of conflicts in their country. In the interest of the victims and the community as a whole, justice must be served without unnecessary delay.

This Council received important briefings from Special Envoy Jan Eliasson and Under-Secretary-General Guéhenno last week on the status of the political process and deployment of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). Using the Addis Ababa conclusions of last year as a yardstick, we believe we are making some headway in the political process and the deployment of UNAMID. The briefings, however, also made clear the challenges confronting those efforts. They include the boycott of the Sirte talks, a lack of critical specialized units for UNAMID and difficulties in the talks between the Secretariat and the Sudanese authorities on the follow-up to resolution 1769 (2007).

These developments point to the need for the Council to continue to enhance its efforts to attain a political framework for peace and a sustainable ceasefire, supported by effective peacekeeping. Moreover, we believe that it is essential that the Council maintain its unity, encourage the parties in the Sudan to participate constructively in the peace process and push forward with the Hybrid Operation.

While peace cannot be complete and sustainable without justice, justice cannot prosper in the absence of peace. The implementation of resolution 1593 (2005) should pay due regard to the wider efforts to achieve peace in the Sudan. Dialogue and cooperation with the Government of the Sudan is key.

The role of the ICC, in accordance with the Rome Statute, should be complementary to national criminal jurisdiction. We believe that the implementation of resolution 1593 (2005) and action taken by the Prosecutor shall neither nullify the principle of complementarity nor prevent the Sudanese national court from invoking its jurisdiction against the perpetrators. We also believe that the cooperation of the Government of the Sudan with the ICC should be addressed in a comprehensive manner in the context of achieving peace and security.

Finally, we wish to underline the dependence of the Court on the conduct of its work. We believe that once a case has been referred to

the Court, including by the Council, there should be no interference in the legal process. At the same time, we recognize and underline the responsibility of the Security Council to ensure that the Government of the Sudan complies fully with the provisions of Security Council resolution 1593 (2005). There cannot be any impunity.

**Statement at 5832nd meeting, Friday, 8 February 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan)**

Let me begin by joining previous speakers in welcoming and expressing appreciation to the Special Envoy, Mr. Jan Eliasson, for his briefing on the political process in Darfur and to the Under-Secretary-General, Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, for his update on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).

My delegation would like to reiterate once again its continued support for Mr. Eliasson's untiring efforts, together with those of his counterpart from the African Union, Mr. Salim Salim, in the political process to find a durable negotiated political settlement to the Darfur issue. We believe it is essential that the Security Council reaffirm its continued support for that process as an irreversible one and to strongly signal to all parties our full backing for the Special Envoy's efforts.

We note in the report that the rebels have coalesced into five main factions. That has offered them the potential to come up with a common platform for negotiations. We underline the importance of their full participation in the negotiation process being facilitated by the Special Envoys of the African Union (AU) and the United Nations. Special Envoy Eliasson used the term "critical mass" in his briefing. It is absolutely essential that all sides support and contribute to the peace process, so that the suffering of the people in Darfur and in the Sudan as a whole can be alleviated without further delay.

It is also essential that all sides cease hostilities and desist from resorting to force, in order to permit progress on the political front. In addition to the political and peacekeeping phases, the cessation of hostilities and the ceasefire are one phase of the Addis Ababa conclusions of 2006 that has not yet been implemented. We need to more closely examine and explore ways to establish a sustainable cessation of hostilities, and we need to revitalize and go beyond previous ceasefire mechanisms. Creating conditions conducive to the political process is key.

The political process is the cornerstone of the international community's efforts to assist the Sudan in dealing with the Darfur issue. The deployment of UNAMID and the political process should be mutually reinforcing. We share the Secretary-General's view that the deployment of UNAMID will be only as effective as the political process that it is mandated to support. At the same time, it is our hope that UNAMID will be able to provide greater security on the ground for the civilian population and to provide greater impetus and confidence for the political process.

We therefore draw some encouragement from the important development with regard to the status-of-forces agreement and troop composition. Those are pertinent steps in UNAMID's deployment and should be recognized as such. We continue to believe in the efficacy of

the Tripartite Mechanism – Secretariat/ African Union/ Government of the Sudan – in addressing issues relating to UNAMID's deployment.

We would like to echo the Secretary-General's statement earlier this week that UNAMID troop contributors must speed up their preparations so that they can be in theatre as soon as possible. Moreover, we recognize that it is important that those in the international community who are in a position to contribute critical aviation and ground transportation units do so.

The recent rebel incursions in Chad and the potential ramifications for our efforts in Darfur are reminders of the risks of delays in the Darfur political process. Indeed, the relations between the Sudan and Chad are essential for the stability of both countries. In that regard, we call on them to respect and secure their common border in accordance with their bilateral agreements, in particular the Tripoli and Riyadh agreements.

More than 4.2 million people in Darfur depend on humanitarian assistance. We commend the efforts of international humanitarian organizations to deliver assistance to those in need. It is deeply troubling that humanitarian workers have continued to be targets of violence and armed robberies. The Joint Communiqué on the facilitation of humanitarian activities should be supported and fully implemented. The Security Council should be ready to look at further measures against those attacking humanitarian workers operating in the service of those in need.

My delegation is convinced that progress on all fronts in Darfur – including the political, peacekeeping, ceasefire and humanitarian tracks – is essential in order to achieve a comprehensive peace. That requires a constructive approach and contributions by all parties, including the international community, the Government of the Sudan and the rebels. The centre of all these efforts, however, is obviously the political process. We wish Mr. Eliasson and Mr. Salim all the best in that endeavour.

Finally, I should like to wish our colleague the Permanent Representative of Croatia every success in her future endeavours.

**Statement at 5922nd meeting, Tuesday, 24 June 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan)**

I join other Security Council members in welcoming once again the Special Envoys, Mr. Jan Eliasson and Mr. Salim Salim, to the Council. I wish to express my delegation's gratitude to them for their service to peace in Darfur.

The situation in Darfur today is dire, as the Security Council witnessed for itself when visiting the region earlier this month. It is indeed deeply troubling that the Darfur conflict has intensified, that the humanitarian situation has worsened and that the political process has faltered. More than that, however, it is disconcerting that all of this has taken place since the adoption of resolution 1769 (2007) last July and the initiation of the Sirte political process last October.

My delegation remains convinced that the attainment of political reconciliation and agreement has to be at the centre of the settlement of the Darfur crisis by addressing the root causes of the conflict rather

than its symptoms. Peacekeeping operations, humanitarian assistance, and courts of justice can and must complement the political process and perhaps even create the conditions for it, but they cannot be a substitute for it.

We commend the sustained and untiring efforts and hard work of the Special Envoys and the Joint Mediation Support Team. The appointment of an African Union/United Nations joint mediator after the necessary consultations is essential.

My delegation believes that the Security Council, for its part, needs to give greater focus and attention to the political process and to take action as necessary to support the process. The Security Council, together with the Secretary-General, also needs to review the United Nations strategy for Darfur and to identify improvements that could be made. We believe that members of the international community who could prevail upon the rebels have the responsibility to do so. We fully agree with an approach that involves putting pressure on them, as others have mentioned. We also appreciate the potential contribution that the normalization of relations between the Sudan and Chad can make in promoting agreement and reconciliation in Darfur.

Ultimately, however, it is for the parties themselves to come to the table and to achieve a political agreement. They need to understand the unique support of the international community in this endeavour. It is not often that the international community lends its support and helps rebel groups to unify in negotiations with a Government. Therefore, the international community needs to be assured that this course of action remains the most viable one to pursue.

The security situation is increasingly worrying and increasingly compounding the humanitarian situation. We are deeply concerned by reports of humanitarian organizations reducing their operations as a result of the security situation.

In spite of the less than ambitious political process, the deployment of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) must take place as scheduled, in order to help, among other things, to strengthen security and protect civilians. The Secretary-General noted in his latest report on UNAMID (S/2008/400) that the security situation has deteriorated throughout Darfur; that significant clashes have continued between tribal groups, between rebel movements and between rebel movements and the Government and its affiliated forces; and that acts of banditry have continued to increase, with attacks against UNAMID and humanitarian personnel. In spite of these difficulties, we need to do all we can to help the people of Darfur.

It is clear that UNAMID's deployment needs to be accelerated as much as possible. There are real hurdles to overcome, not least those related to infrastructure and logistics. In this regard, we urge closer cooperation, coordination and consultation between the Secretariat and UNAMID headquarters on the one hand and the Sudanese authorities on the other.

A military solution is not possible in Darfur; otherwise we would not be discussing the Darfur situation today. All the parties should cease all hostilities even though they have yet to exhaust their energy. That energy should be directed to the negotiating table rather than the battle front. Once again, for us, the political process is key. The plight

and the future of the civilian population should be reason enough to re-engage the political process.

**Statement at 5947th meeting, Thursday, 31 July 2008, 9:40 p.m.
(Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan)**

Let me first express my delegation's appreciation to the United Kingdom for preparing the resolution, taking the leading role in the negotiations and providing ample time for our deliberations. It is indeed very unfortunate that the resolution did not enjoy consensus.

My delegation fully supports the deployment and work of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), and therefore fully endorses the extension of its mandate. As a United Nations Member State and a police contributor to UNAMID, and in remembrance of the very regrettable tragedy visited upon UNAMID personnel recently, Indonesia welcomes the resolution's appropriate recognition of the issue of the safety and security of UNAMID personnel, including in relation to the urgent contribution to and prompt deployment of critical force enablers.

As stated in paragraph 9 of resolution 1828 (2008),

"there can be no military solution to the conflict in Darfur, and ... an inclusive political settlement and the successful deployment of UNAMID are essential to re-establishing peace".

The resolution expresses the Council's insistence on a political solution and its readiness to take action against those impeding the peace process.

I wish also to reiterate Indonesia's position on the need to strike a balance between the promotion of justice and the pursuit of peace. In that regard, we fully support the views of the African Union, the League of Arab States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference as expressed in their respective letters to the Council, as well as those of the Non-Aligned Movement on the need for the Security Council to assume its responsibility for maintaining international peace and security and to ensure that the ongoing peace process in Darfur is not jeopardized.

My delegation therefore supports the call for the Council to consider requesting the ICC to defer the investigation in relation to the situation in Darfur, in line with article 16 of the Rome Statute. Indeed, resolution 1593 (2005), which referred the situation in Darfur to the Prosecutor of the ICC, envisaged, in its second preambular paragraph, the possible deferral of the case. The Rome Statute itself recognizes the role of political and security considerations in the pursuit of justice, as reflected in its article 16.

Now, the Security Council needs to find ways to respond to any possible obstruction of the peace process and of the maintenance of international peace and security. We are hopeful that the Council will consider positively the request made by those organizations, in particular the African Union, which is the partner of the United Nations in the political and peacekeeping endeavour in Darfur. The Security Council became involved in Darfur because of the urgent need of the people of Darfur to be protected. The persistence of the conflict would definitely not serve that purpose.

Finally, it is our wish that the resolution we have just adopted not only will support continuously the work of UNAMID but will also contribute to the promotion of the Peace Agreement and to the easing of the humanitarian situation in Darfur.

**Statement at 6029th meeting, Wednesday, 3 December 2008, 3:00 p.m.
(Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan)**

Let me begin by joining previous speakers in welcoming the Prosecutor, Mr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, to the Council and in thanking him for his briefing on the implementation of resolution 1593 (2005).

The security and humanitarian situation in Darfur remains worrying. The international community's efforts to help the Sudan to address the situation in Darfur are facing mounting challenges, and primary among them are the continued armed clashes.

Let me reiterate that Indonesia strongly condemns all gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. We condemn those who commit war crimes and crimes against humanity. Impunity must not be tolerated, and the perpetrators of those crimes must be brought to justice without delay. My delegation deeply regrets and is concerned by the information contained in the report on the ongoing crimes by all parties.

A great deal has been said today about problems in establishing cooperation between the International Criminal Court and the Government of the Sudan. My delegation regrets that no progress has been achieved in this matter. In addressing the matter of cooperation between the Court and the Sudan, my delegation reasserts the importance of viewing it from a broader perspective. It should be also approached in the context of a search for a comprehensive solution to the situation in Darfur, which is comprised of four dimensions: political, peacekeeping, humanitarian and legal dimensions. They are all mutually reinforcing and complementary to one another. Our efforts in all dimensions need mutual cooperation and reinforcement rather than division and isolation of certain dimensions. As the Prosecutor stated this morning in his briefing, none can succeed in isolation.

In this context, we agree on the importance of striking a balance and having synergy between the pursuit of justice and the maintenance of peace and security. In that regard we fully support the views of the African Union, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement on the need to ensure that the ongoing peace process in Darfur is not jeopardized.

Indonesia reasserts that the implementation of resolution 1593 (2005) and actions of the Prosecutor shall neither nullify the principle of complementarity nor absolve Sudan's national court of its responsibilities, as stated in the presidential statement of 16 June 2008 (S/PRST/2008/21).

In line with the communiqué of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union of 22 September 2008 and the package solution offered by the Arab League, Indonesia urges the Government of the Sudan to urgently take concrete steps to bring to justice the perpetrators of gross violations of human rights in Darfur. The

Government of the Sudan should also ensure that its national law does not exempt anyone from responsibility. It is also important that all the crimes covered in international humanitarian law will be covered by Sudanese law. Indonesia is confident that the Sudanese Government will take up those responsibilities to meet the requirements of the principle of complementarity.

In the context of implementation of the principle of complementarity, my delegation shares the view on the importance of the contributions of the African Union, the Arab League and others to the promotion of an accountability mechanism in the Sudan.

We welcome the conclusion of the investigation with regard to crimes against peacekeepers and humanitarian personnel in Haskanita. The issuance of arrest warrants for war crimes in Haskanita is a significant step that requires further action by the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. In that regard, we wish to stress that ensuring the continued cooperation of all Darfur armed rebel movements is essential.

Finally, my delegation wishes to emphasize once again its appreciation of the Court's independence and of the Prosecutor's efforts to implement resolution 1593 (2005).

**Statement at 6030th meeting, Wednesday, 3 December 2008, 5:10 p.m.
(The situation in Chad and the Sudan)**

Allow me first of all to join previous speakers in welcoming once again Mr. John Holmes, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, to the Security Council, and in thanking him for his comprehensive briefing. We also appreciate very much the statement made by the Permanent Representative of Chad.

We share the view that the humanitarian situation in the regions that the Under-Secretary-General visited remains difficult in both the context of unresolved conflicts and in the immense size of the humanitarian needs. We value the work being done by the humanitarian community in Chad, in the Darfur region of the Sudan and in southern Sudan. This work needs to take place in an uninterrupted manner while the search for a political settlement continues or, in the case of southern Sudan, the peace is maintained.

The protection of civilians is a priority for the international community. It was the threat posed to civilians by the outbreak of conflicts that brought about the international community's involvement in these regions. Towards that end, the rapid deployment of peacekeeping missions in Chad and Darfur becomes a matter of utmost urgency. Equally important is support for the efforts of regional countries and the African Union.

In Darfur, we look forward to the resumption of the political process under the leadership of Joint Chief Mediator Djibril Bassolé. We welcome the Sudan's declaration of a ceasefire. Pending the establishment of a more structured ceasefire mechanism, we believe that all parties in Darfur should unilaterally cease hostilities. The international community should continue to encourage this outcome. A rapid political settlement of the conflict in Darfur offers the potential to improve the humanitarian situation in the region. There is

also the hope that an improvement in Chad-Sudan relations would contribute to the forging of peace on both sides of the border.

We deplore all attacks against humanitarian workers. We are appalled that the number of those attacks in Darfur this year has doubled from last year. Incidences of carjackings are also worrisome; not only are humanitarian organizations losing their assets, but worse, these vehicles usually end up being used for military purposes. We underscore that most of these attacks are reported to have been perpetrated by the rebel movements. We therefore join the call for them to stop these acts and remind them that these acts could constitute war crimes.

Close cooperation between the Government of the Sudan and the humanitarian community could contribute greatly to improving the humanitarian situation. Above all, it is the Government of the Sudan that has a responsibility to protect humanitarian workers in its country, and we look to it to take every measure to do so. For humanitarian efforts to be successful, the well-established international principles of humanitarian assistance should always be observed.

Finally, we must not lose sight of the development perspective. In almost every case of conflict, poverty and underdevelopment are typically present — and, indeed, are frequently the root cause of the conflict. The parties to a conflict need to be assured that the dividends of peace will be real and that the international community will assist them in establishing sustainable peace.

CHAPTER III EUROPE

1. Bosnian and Herzegovina

**Statement at 5673rd meeting, Thursday, 10 May 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Security Council mission - Report of the Security Council
mission on the Kosovo issue (S/2007/256))**

My delegation wishes to take this opportunity to express its highest appreciation to the head of the mission, Ambassador Verbeke, for his very able stewardship and finesse in guiding our mission.

We would also like to express our appreciation to the Secretariat for organizing the mission, as well as to all parties that facilitated the work of our mission to Kosovo.

Being a newly-elected member of this body, the delegation of Indonesia has amply benefited from the visit. For that reason, we would like to thank the Russian delegation for proposing the visit at a time when the Security Council has to decide on the future of Kosovo.

The visit has given us detailed information and valuable inputs on the issue under discussion. Meetings with various political, religious and community leaders, as well as field visits, enhanced and refined our understanding of the various dimensions of the issue at hand. We can comfortably and confidently assert that we now have a better and clearer view of the issue.

The mission confirmed our perception that the issue of Kosovo is a sensitive and delicate matter, and that it may be difficult to find a good solution that can satisfy both sides. However, we are determined to take steps to assist the region in moving forward in a peaceful and just manner. To that end, the legitimate concerns of all sides have to be taken into account.

Geographically, Indonesia is located far from Kosovo. In its political considerations, however, the issue of Kosovo is close to all of us. This is an issue of human tragedy; it is an issue of protecting civilians; and it is also an issue that has consequences far beyond Kosovo's natural borders. For those reasons, my Government is following the issue with great caution.

During the visit, we could vividly sense the deep animosity among communities that hinders cooperation and dialogue. While the issue of internally displaced persons and refugees fleeing by the hundreds of thousands has yet to be resolved, the most important need is the creation of a suitable environment for reconciliation. The region can come to terms with the past and build an enduring peace only if the communities are ready to accept and work out their differences. It is a moving experience to see families torn apart by violence and taken away from their familiar roots. The Security Council has a moral obligation to heal the wounds of those communities so that they can embrace today and plan for the future.

Reconciliation has never been easy or smooth sailing for any society torn apart. It is a long and difficult journey. Unfortunately,

there is no quick fix or shortcut. There is only a long and difficult route, but it is a journey worth taking. Without reconciliation, those societies will forever live in a world filled with hatred and bigotry, no matter what the change of status may be. Violence will recur no matter how we try to prevent it. It is a matter only of when and where, and not of why.

The visit and today's meeting are overtures for more constructive discussion and consultations among members of the Security Council. Indonesia, for its part, is ready to continue extensive consultations with all relevant parties, in particular members of the Security Council, to find a way of dealing with the matter in a just, balanced and comprehensive manner. The weeks and months ahead will be difficult for all of us, but the success of our visit is a good omen for the Council.

Finally, let me once again reiterate our appreciation to the head of the mission, Ambassador Verbeke.

**Statement at 5675th meeting, Wednesday, 16 May 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina)**

Let me first join others in thanking Mr. Schwarz-Schilling, the High Representative for his comprehensive report on the issue. The report (S/2007/253, annex) provides us with a snapshot of the current conditions, providing valuable information about the situation on the ground. We would also like to welcome and thank the Chairman of the Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina for his statement.

The decision of the European Union on 11 December 2006 to downsize the European Union military operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina during 2007 was a significant political event. It meant that the general security condition was improving and that domestic law enforcement agencies had become capable of coping with the challenges ahead of them. It meant that the fruit of years of investment and training of domestic law enforcement agencies could now be reaped. This would not only increase the sense of national ownership but also show the general public that its own agencies are leading the efforts. We therefore congratulate the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina on making such progress. We also commend the European Union for providing assistance.

Furthermore, we acknowledge that the Balkan region has had a bitter experience with nationalistic sentiments. The world is filled with tragic stories arising from unfettered nationalistic sentiments. Europe has had a share of this story. We thus understand why the report is cautious on this subject, in view of the fact that these nationalistic sentiments are capable of hindering progress in the region.

It is our view, however, that these nationalistic feelings can also be a source of strength for a country and can be used to unite it and move it forward. Nationalistic sentiments can represent a greater feeling of ownership, which is critically needed for the current situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We believe that the Government needs to funnel these abundant sentiments to reenergize the society, which would help the peace and reconciliation efforts.

Inflammatory rhetoric during political campaigns reflects the ebb and flow of political events. Nonetheless, we call on all sides to exercise restraint and to put the interests of their societies above all other considerations.

We also note with concern the slow return of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). We believe that any inducement to encourage returnees should not be focused solely on the provision of the basic necessities of modern life, important as they are. There also needs to be a higher level of trust among the returnees and the local population. This also has to be nurtured carefully. The returnees need to be convinced that they will be able to interact and live peacefully with the others. It must be recognized that the longer it takes for them to return, the less incentive there is for them to do so.

While there have been some accomplishments in various sectors, challenges remain to be addressed, including how the national authorities can be assisted further in effectively carrying out reforms in the constitutional and police areas.

With reference to broad constitutional reform, my delegation deems it necessary that reforms be undertaken in a careful manner and in line with the Peace Agreement. Constitutional reform should serve the interests of all sides to achieve stability, peace and a just society. There are various constitutional reform processes and models throughout the world from which it can benefit. However, efforts to impose one particular experience of constitutional reform on Bosnia and Herzegovina would not serve its interests. The most important thing is for the reform exercise to reflect the wishes of the country's people and embody local norms, values and wisdom.

Finally, since this will be the last report presented by High Representative Schwarz-Schilling, we join others in thanking him and in expressing our appreciation to him for his hard work and dedication to meeting the objectives set by the Council.

**Statement at 5697th meeting, Monday, 18 June 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons
Responsible for Serious Violations of International
Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the
Former Yugoslavia since 1991)**

I would like first of all to join other speakers in welcoming the Presidents and Prosecutors of both Tribunals to the Council and in thanking them for their respective reports and insightful briefings.

Indonesia supports the effective contributions of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in bringing those who were responsible for crimes against humanity in the former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda, respectively, to justice.

Justice, as a foundation of peace, will generate sustainable peace only when it is sought in tandem with reconciliation efforts. Hence Indonesia believes that the Tribunals could also contribute to the process of national reconciliation in the countries concerned and to the struggle of those countries to come to terms with the past and move on to embrace the future.

We are encouraged by the fact that the two Tribunals are steadily working to meet their completion strategies. The completion strategies are instrumental in the streamlining of the final phase of the functioning of both Tribunals.

We commend the cooperation of the countries of the former Yugoslavia and of Rwanda in the work of the respective Tribunals and their completion strategies.

One important step in the context of the completion strategies is the transfer of cases from the Tribunals to national courts. My delegation recognizes the merits of, and challenges posed by, such a step. Transferring the cases would reduce the backlog of the two Tribunals and allow them to complete their respective mandates on time. It would also reduce the Tribunals' overall financial burden.

However, transfer to national courts will be ineffective if those courts are not well equipped and sufficiently capable. Under such circumstances, justice will hardly be served and the foundations of peace will become less secure.

In that regard, my delegation attaches particular significance to the capacity-building programmes of national courts. The support and assistance of the international community in that effort is essential. National courts must have an unequivocally strong commitment to justice in order to function effectively. They must receive political support from the Government and from the people they serve in order to work authoritatively. In our view, a lack of commitment or support would bring into question the courts' efficacy and credibility.

Legal standards and respect for national justice systems must be equally respected. Thus, when national courts eventually take over the cases from the Tribunals, they should observe proper standards. National justice systems must also have an undisputable willingness and the capacity to bring to justice their nationals responsible for crimes against humanity, whoever they may be. When a system is averse to, and incompetent in, bringing such perpetrators to justice, the need for international tribunals will remain pressing.

Justice cannot be fully served so long as the perpetrators remain at large. The system must be able to bring them to justice, no matter when or where they are apprehended. My delegation therefore stresses the paramount importance of enhancing cooperation among States in the service of justice.

There can be no sustainable peace in the former Yugoslavia or Rwanda without justice and reconciliation. Through their judgments and decisions, the Tribunals could play a major role not only in serving justice, addressing impunity and promoting reconciliation in those countries but also in the development of international humanitarian and criminal law.

As a final point, my delegation underlines the significance of continued close cooperation between the Tribunals and the countries concerned and other relevant stakeholders at various levels in the pursuit of justice.

**Statement at 5796th meeting, Monday, 10 December 2007, 10:20 a.m.
(International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons
Responsible for Serious Violations of International
Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the
Former Yugoslavia since 1991)**

Let me first of all join other speakers in welcoming the Presidents and the Prosecutors of both Tribunals to the Council and in thanking them for their respective reports and insightful briefings. At this opportunity I would also like to pay tribute to Ms. Carla Del Ponte whose term is coming to an end soon, for her outstanding work, dedication and important service in the cause of justice.

Indonesia reiterates its support for the effective contribution of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in bringing those who were responsible for crimes against humanity in the former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda to justice.

My delegation underlines the importance of the completion strategies, which are instrumental in the streamlining of the final phase of the functioning of the ICTY and the ICTR. We therefore commend both Tribunals for the concrete steps they are taking to ensure the timely implementation of the completion strategies. We also note that they have made significant progress towards completion of their work.

With a view to focusing on their legacies and on mechanisms that will remain in place following the completion of the work of the Tribunals, my delegation stresses the importance of possible residual functions. We are of the view that the issue of residual functions is multi-faceted and involves legal and political considerations. The Security Council, for its part, should appropriately address the issue and discuss it in a systematic and comprehensive manner and in the framework of a broad and inclusive process involving related States, similar tribunals and civil society. It would also be useful to consider lessons learned from the residual functions of the post-Second World War international military tribunals.

In the view of my delegation, the most essential residual function to which the Council should pay special attention is the trial of fugitives. We believe the two Tribunals cannot fully complete their work until they bring the principal indictees to justice. That requires full cooperation on the part of all States concerned, with a view not only to bringing them to justice, but also to regaining stability in the regions concerned.

Another significant feature of the two Tribunals' completion strategies that relate to the residual functions is referral of cases to national courts. My delegation recognizes the merit of and challenges posed by such a step. In that regard, we attach particular importance to capacity-building programmes for national courts. We commend the efforts of the Tribunals to continue in the strengthening of their cooperation with respective national authorities, in particular with domestic courts of Rwanda and the States of the former Yugoslavia. We support in that regard the continued assistance of the international community to develop the domestic judicial capacity of

relevant States, so as to ensure that all referred cases are conducted in full compliance with the standards of due process.

Finally, let me reiterate our firm commitment to continue to cooperate with the Tribunals to ensure that their mandates are fully discharged, including in the implementation of the respective completion strategies.

**Statement at 5839th meeting, Monday, 18 February 2008, 3:00 p.m.
(Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999))**

At the outset, allow me to join others in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Boris Tadić, President of Serbia, and in thanking him for his important statement. We also wish to warmly acknowledge the participation of the Secretary-General, His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon.

The latest development in Kosovo is a source of profound concern to our delegation. Certainly, we are mindful of the view regarding the unique character of the Balkan region. We are not oblivious to the fact that the issue of Kosovo is inseparable from the process of the break-up of the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Above all, we sympathize with the recent sufferings of the people in Kosovo.

The Kosovo issue has certain unique qualities. However, it could be argued that all issues that are on the agenda of the Council have their own unique character. For Indonesia, however, they share one overriding and fundamental quality, namely, that for all these issues, dialogue and negotiations must be the preferred option for their resolution.

Indonesia therefore regrets the failure to reach a solution on Kosovo through dialogue and negotiation, resulting in the unilateral declaration of independence by Kosovo. That declaration has come despite the call by many Council members, including Indonesia, for a continuation of dialogue and negotiation.

From the very outset, the Government of Indonesia has supported all efforts to address the question of the final status of Kosovo in a peaceful manner, through dialogue and negotiation. We maintain our strong belief that a mutually acceptable agreement emanating from that process will better guarantee peace and stability in the region. It also offers the best promise of preventing new tension or conflict in the Balkan region.

We hear the view of those who contend that the status quo has become untenable. Indeed, we understand that view. Most important, the parties directly affected themselves appear to be mindful of that fact. The direct talks between Belgrade and Pristina were, after all, designed to address this situation. While the process has yet to yield the desired result, we do not believe that all avenues for a negotiated outcome have been exhausted. Commitment, good faith and, most of all, patience are, after all, key prerequisites for successful negotiations. Here, we speak from experience.

It is difficult to comprehend the readiness to declare the talks to be exhausted. We are reminded of other seemingly intractable issues before the Council where patience and perseverance in the pursuit of negotiated outcome is counselled. Dialogue, negotiation and

reconciliation, not might, have alleviated the challenge of prolonged conflict. Only through this avenue of peace will new tensions – or worse still, armed conflicts – not occur in the Balkans. We should embrace this avenue instead of giving in.

The potential implications of the forcible decision on final status become especially poignant when set against the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter and reaffirmed by international law, namely the cardinal principles of the sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all States Members of the United Nations. Those well-tested principles serve to guide interactions among States and nations in order to maintain a stable and peaceful international system. Those paramount principles have to be consistently upheld by all Member States.

The Government of Indonesia will closely follow developments on Kosovo. It will carefully consider the full implications of the declaration, in the full light of the principles and realities I mentioned earlier.

Indonesia expresses its deepest hope that Kosovo's declaration of independence will not cause new tension and open conflict. The tragic history of the Balkan region should provide the Council with the insight necessary to chart its course in a careful and measured manner.

In shouldering its Charter-mandated responsibilities, the Council should, at the minimum and as a matter of urgency, transmit a clear message to all the parties to exercise restraint and remain calm. The Council should also make it clear that it continues to be seized of the issue and that it will closely monitor developments in the region. Not least, the Council must inform itself fully and build a common and shared understanding of the impact that this latest development could have on the work and policy of the current and legal administrator of Kosovo, namely the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo. The Security Council should ensure that the provisions of the United Nations Charter and Council resolution 1244 (1999) are fully respected. Uncertainty and lack of clarity on this issue would not be helpful at all.

Indonesia has always believed that the Council should be at the forefront on any issue pertaining to international peace and security, as mandated by the Charter. Time after time, the Council has been able to react in a proportionate and careful manner on various global issues. It has made a difference. This is one of the global issues that we, the Council as a whole, simply do not have the luxury of time to remain indecisive and to stand on the sidelines.

We have always believed that the diverse composition of the membership of the Council can provide a nuanced and all-embracing view of the world. Members of the Council representing the diverse views of all regions can assist the Balkan region to come to terms. In this regard, the Council has to maintain its cohesiveness and exercise its leadership. The international community is attentively watching the Council in addressing this issue.

In conclusion, even at this juncture, we will continue to espouse the need for dialogue and a negotiated solution within the framework of Council resolution 1244 (1999) and international law.

**Statement at 5904th meeting, Wednesday, 4 June 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons
Responsible for Serious Violations of International
Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the
Former Yugoslavia since 1991)**

My delegation joins previous speakers in welcoming the Presidents and Prosecutors of both Tribunals to the Council and in thanking them for their comprehensive briefings on the progress of the implementation of the completion strategies of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

Like others, we underscore the importance of the completion strategies, which are instrumental in the performance of the ICTY and ICTR in their final phases. In that regard, Indonesia notes with appreciation that various concrete measures have been taken to implement the strategies and that significant progress has been achieved towards the completion of the work of the two Tribunals. We fully appreciate the significance of the continuous efforts of the Tribunals to achieve greater efficiency by exploring further ways to expedite proceedings while respecting the rights of the accused.

In connection with some functions of the Tribunals that will remain in place following the completion of their work, we wish to underline the need for the Security Council to establish a particular mechanism to deal with residual functions. Such a mechanism should be able to address residual functions, particularly those related to fugitives at large, transfers of cases to national jurisdiction, witness protection, sentence supervision and archives. The mechanism, we believe, should hold only the particular residual functions that are necessary to retain. Functions other than those should be transferred to national jurisdiction or other relevant bodies.

It is also the view of my delegation that the most essential residual function that the Council should consider is the trial of fugitives. In that regard, it is pertinent for all States concerned to fully cooperate in order to bring all perpetrators of crimes against humanity in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda to justice. Impunity is unacceptable.

Another significant feature of the two Tribunals' completion strategies as they relate to residual functions is the referral of cases to national courts. My delegation recognizes the merits of challenges posed by such referrals. It is therefore vital for the international community to continue to support the capacity-building performance and programmes of the relevant national courts. Much work remains to be done if the national courts are to take over the judicial function of the Tribunals in the future. In that regard, we commend the efforts of the Tribunals to strengthen their cooperation with the respective national authorities.

In the light of that, my delegation would like to specifically mention that the informal working group on the Tribunals chaired by Belgium has successfully arrived at some areas of agreement in identifying residual functions and possible solutions to the issues they raise. We share the view that the agreement could serve as good common ground for the working group to move forward to a new phase of work by focusing on the possible elements of a Security Council resolution. We encourage the continued close cooperation

between the two Tribunals and the working group on the Tribunals' legacy, most crucially with respect to mechanisms required to disposing of the Tribunals' residual functions.

Before concluding my remarks, I would like once again to reiterate my delegation's support to both Tribunals in discharging their mandates, including the implementation of their respective completion strategies. We also wish to express our appreciation for their contribution to bringing to justice those responsible for crimes against humanity in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

**Statement at 5917th meeting, Friday, 20 June 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999))**

Let me join others in thanking the Secretary-General for his briefing on his proposals and for his report on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) (S/2008/354). We would also like to welcome Mr. Boris Tadić, President of the Republic of Serbia, and Mr. Fatmir Sejdiu and to thank them for their statements.

We have consistently underlined that the Council must always inform itself fully and build a common and shared understanding on how evolving developments impact the work and policy of the interim administrator of Kosovo, namely UNMIK. We are aware that operational adjustments and fine tuning, in response to developments and changes on the ground, are inevitable in any United Nations mission, including in Kosovo. In the case of the latter, these efforts have to be consistent with the operational framework established under resolution 1244 (1999). We appreciate, therefore, the extraordinary and thought-through efforts of the Secretary-General to employ his good offices with the parties and key stakeholders in order to identify a status-neutral solution which would address the current challenge and manage the situation effectively on the ground. Indonesia is mindful of the importance of the package of ideas communicated by the Secretary-General on UNMIK's reconfiguration – moving the region in the direction of peace and security, while ensuring the legacy and continuous role of the United Nations.

Synergy in the efforts between the United Nations and the European Union (EU) merits our support. The European Union's efforts to play a greater operational role within the status-neutral framework should be encouraged and supported, as this will provide further stability to the region. Indeed, such a role puts into effect the recently and often discussed theme of cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, as envisioned in Chapter VIII of the Charter. It is our view that regional organizations can provide meaningful and constructive contributions to address regional issues. This has been the case in Africa, the Americas and Asia, and it applies equally to Europe.

Elsewhere, however, synergy of efforts with the United Nations is key. For this reason, it is important to establish a clear organizational linkage between the EU office, the international civilian operation and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. The Council in this regard needs to stay abreast of the activities of the EU

and the international civil operation on the ground, as well as the regular briefings of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the written reports of the Secretary-General.

Once again, the two entities have to work within the framework of resolution 1244 (1999). I will share some final thoughts before I conclude. We wish to underline the fact that resolution 1244 (1999) remains in force. Dialogue and negotiation remain essential for the resolution of the question of final status. Indonesia has and continues to maintain that position. The Security Council must collectively transmit a clear and unified message to all the parties to continue to exercise restraint, and it must exercise its leadership on the issue. We believe that the Secretary-General should continue to engage all parties in the region to find a mutually acceptable solution in line with resolution 1244 (1999).

Finally, I conclude by thanking the Secretary-General and his team for their relentless efforts, and the personnel of UNMIK for their continued dedication and their pursuit of peace and security in line with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

**Statement at 5944th meeting, Friday, 25 July 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999))**

Let me join others in thanking Mr. Lamberto Zannier, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, for his briefing on the current situation in Kosovo and in congratulating him on his new assignment. I wish also to thank the Secretary-General for his report (S/2008/458). We welcome Mr. Vuk Jeremić, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, and thank him for his statement. We also welcome Mr. Hyseni to the Council.

While taking into account the evolving situation on the ground in Kosovo, which surrounds the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and affects its role in the interest of maintaining peace and stability, we urge all parties on the ground to continue to work with and cooperate with UNMIK. Resolution 1244 (1999) continues to provide the necessary political and legal framework for UNMIK to discharge its mandate, including the implementation of standards. UNMIK's operational reconfiguration, we understand, is status-neutral. We acknowledge the importance of the Secretary-General's instruction to UNMIK to cooperate with the European Union (EU) in the area of the rule of law, under the overall authority of the United Nations and consistent with the operational framework established under resolution 1244 (1999). For that reason, we want to put emphasis on the establishment of clear links between the EU and the International Civilian Office (ICO) and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

It is our understanding that resolution 1244 (1999) still governs Kosovo; thus, any entity working within the region has to fall with the framework of that resolution. In that regard, the Council needs to keep abreast of the activities of the EU and the ICO on the ground, through regular briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and through written reports by the Secretary-General.

We support the continuation of dialogue with Belgrade on issues of mutual concern which we regard as being of crucial importance for the efforts of the United Nations in Kosovo. We are pleased that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General stands ready to engage in discussion and negotiation in an open, transparent and balanced manner in order to develop a dialogue with Belgrade with a view to implementing practical arrangements. However, it is also particularly crucial that such a dialogue also encompass the wider issue of status. Without that, it is difficult to foresee the possibility of the normalization of the situation on the ground.

It has been Indonesia's position that dialogue and negotiation remain essential to resolving the question of final status, and we welcome the steadfast position taken by Serbia in committing itself to resolving the final status of Kosovo through political and legal means only. By the same token, we call on the parties in Kosovo to embrace the position taken by Serbia. That position will ensure that the region reaps the peace dividend. We believe that the Secretary-General should continue to engage all parties in the region in order to find a mutually acceptable solution in line with resolution 1244 (1999).

We wish to conclude by thanking the Secretary-General and his team for their tireless efforts and all the personnel of UNMIK for their continued dedication in pursuit of peace and security, in line with resolution 1244 (1999).

**Statement at 6026th meeting, Tuesday, 2 December 2008, 11:25 a.m.
(Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998),
1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999))**

First of all, let me join other speakers in thanking Special Representative of the Secretary-General Zannier for his briefing on the latest situation in Kosovo and the Secretary-General for his report (S/2008/692). We would also like to welcome the presence of Mr. Vuk Jeremić, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, and we thank him for his statement. We also welcome the presence of Mr. Hyseni.

We are deeply troubled by several inter-ethnic security incidents, albeit at a low level, during the rebuilding period. This chain of events must be halted by various preventive measures, including non-coercive measures. The Security Council collectively must transmit a clear message to all parties to continue to exercise restraint with a view to maintaining stability and security in the region.

We understand that there are divergent paths being taken by Belgrade and Pristina with regard to the space in which the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) can operate. This has significant consequences within which the Special Representative can exercise his mandate, as stipulated in resolution 1244 (1999). This has led UNMIK to start a series of steps in the reconfiguration process. In this regard, we support the work of Special Representative Zannier and UNMIK and acknowledge the need to adjust UNMIK's structure and profile in response to the profoundly changed reality in Kosovo.

We also recognize that UNMIK has to cooperate with the European Union (EU) to facilitate the EU's preparation to undertake

an enhanced operational role in Kosovo in the rule of law area. For this reason, we wish to stress the importance of establishing a clear link between the EU office with that of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. It is our understanding that resolution 1244 (1999) still governs Kosovo, and thus any entity working in the region has to fall within that framework. These efforts will once again demonstrate that synergy and efforts between the United Nations and regional organizations can bear the fruits of success.

While taking into account the evolving situation on the ground that surrounds and affects the role of UNMIK, and in the interests of maintaining peace and stability, we urge all parties on the ground to continue to work and cooperate with UNMIK. Resolution 1244 (1999) continues to provide the necessary political and legal framework in which UNMIK must discharge its mandate, including the implementation of standards. UNMIK's operational reconfiguration, as we understand it, is status-neutral.

Indonesia supports the continuation of dialogue and negotiation between Belgrade and Pristina on issues of mutual concern. It is particularly crucial that this effort also encompass the wider issue of resolving the final status question. Without this consideration, it is difficult to foresee the possibility of normalizing the situation on the ground.

We continue to welcome the steadfast position taken by Serbia in committing itself to resolving the final status of Kosovo by political, diplomatic and legal means. By the same token, we call on all parties in Kosovo to embrace a similar position. Such an approach will, we believe, guarantee that all Kosovars will ultimately enjoy the dividends of peace.

In this context, the Secretary-General should continue to engage all parties in the region so as to find a mutually acceptable solution in line with resolution 1244 (1999).

Finally, we would like to conclude by thanking the Secretary-General and his team for their efforts as well as all UNMIK personnel, under the leadership of the Special Representative, Mr. Zannier, for their dedication to the pursuit of peace and security in the region.

**Statement at 6034th meeting, Tuesday, 9 December 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina)**

I should like first of all to join other in thanking the High Representative, Mr. Lajčák, for his briefing as well as his report. We also wish to welcome the presence of Mr. Nikola Špirić, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and we thank him for his statement.

We welcome the fact that some progress has been made regarding the objective and conditions of the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board. Moreover, we welcome the continuous efforts by all stakeholders in the region by taking various measures to strengthen the rule of law at the local and national levels. It is our view that one of the fundamentals for forging a strong society is to build a culture of the rule of law. Such a culture can guarantee that all its citizens will reap the dividends of peace.

We note the incremental progress that has been made by Bosnia and Herzegovina to fulfil the stabilization and association agreement. We also acknowledge that the continuation of the mandate of the European Union force contributes to a safer and more secure environment in this process.

Despite this notable progress, the report noted some concern on the current security situation in the country that is emanating from the political environment. We place our hope in the Office of the High Representative to continue to engage all political parties and other relevant stakeholders to further ameliorate the current acrimonious political climate. This climate, we believe, will undoubtedly affect and erode inter-ethnic trust and thus make compromise between the parties even more complex.

In this regard, we continue to believe that dialogue, reconciliation and negotiation must be the preferred option for the resolution of any issues. This effort would ensure that cooperation among parties can be materialized and, most important, it would allow for the parties to focus their scarce political energy on achieving their common goal of prosperity and stability in the region.

We continue to note with concern the slow return of refugees and internally displaced persons. We encourage the Office of the High Representative, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other stakeholders to redouble their efforts to tackle these delicate humanitarian issues. Such efforts need to encompass measures to build a higher level of trust among the returnees and the local populations. As in other places, we recognize that the longer it takes for them to return, the less incentive exists for them to do so. The returnees need to be convinced that they would be able to interact and live peacefully with others.

Finally, I should like to reiterate Indonesia's continued support to the political process conducted by the High Representative in line with the Peace Agreement.

Statement at 6042nd meeting, Friday, 12 December 2008, 3:40 p.m.

(International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991)

First of all, my delegation wishes to join previous speakers in welcoming the Presidents and Prosecutors of both Tribunals to the Council and in thanking them for their comprehensive briefings on the progress of the implementation of the completion strategies of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). Let me also use this opportunity to reiterate our continued support to the effective contribution of the ICTY and ICTR to bringing to justice those responsible for crimes against humanity in the former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda.

My delegation, like others, underscores the importance of the completion strategies to the performance of the ICTY and ICTR in their final phases. In that regard, Indonesia notes with appreciation that various concrete measures have been taken to implement the completion strategies and significant progress has been achieved

towards completion of the work of the two Tribunals. We also welcome their joint efforts to ensure their legacies after the completion of the mandate and the work of the two Tribunals.

We also note that the current and upcoming workloads of the Tribunals are exceptionally high. We therefore welcome their continued endeavours to achieve greater efficiency in their work by exploring further ways to expedite proceedings while respecting the rights of the accused.

My delegation recognizes that naturally there will be some functions of the Tribunals that will remain in place following completion of their work. The Council, in our view, needs to consider a temporary international mechanism for addressing all residual functions, particularly those related to the fugitives at large, transfers of cases to national jurisdiction, witness protection, sentence supervision and archives. Such a mechanism, which would address the necessary residual functions that should be retained, should be small, temporary and efficient.

My delegation would like to specifically acknowledge that the informal Working Group on the tribunals chaired by Belgium has successfully achieved some areas of agreement in identifying the residual functions and their possible solution. We also note that the Working Group has reached significant progress in the drafting of a Security Council resolution. It is indeed our hope that there will be adequate common ground for the Council to speed up the finalization and adoption of that draft resolution.

To conclude, my delegation, once again, would like to reassure both Tribunals of its full support and cooperation towards ensuring that their mandates are fully discharged, including the implementation of their respective completion strategies. We would also like to express our appreciation for the contributions of the two Tribunals to bringing those responsible to justice.

2. Georgia

**Statement at 5951st meeting, Friday, 8 August 2008, 1:15 a.m.
(The situation in Georgia)**

We are deeply concerned by the latest situation in Georgia. The potential for further escalation of violence is real. Almost invariably, such a spiral of violence has serious humanitarian implications for those who are vulnerable. Therefore, much is at stake. My delegation deems it important that a cessation of hostilities be established, and that the parties exercise maximum restraint, including from making inflammatory statements. While recognizing the obvious challenge, it is important that open lines of communication be established between the sides at the highest level and that confidence be established and nurtured.

In the final analysis, there is no substitute for dialogue. That open line of communication must be coupled with tangible efforts on both sides to end the bloodshed.

At this crucial hour, it is pertinent for the Council to act collectively and in unison in expressing concern and in calling on all sides to exercise maximum restraint, to de-escalate the conflict and violence and to embark on emergency talks in a timely manner. My delegation attaches great importance to the Council's role in managing rapidly evolving crises. We therefore very much regret the fact that, despite obvious common concerns, the Council has yet to express its collective view on this very important issue.

**Statement at 5952nd meeting, Friday, 8 August 2008, 4:20 p.m.
(The situation in Georgia)**

Since the Council last convened, in the early hours of this morning, developments in South Ossetia, Georgia, have not turned for the better. On the contrary, as we feared, the international community is witnessing a further escalation of violence and a serious deterioration of the security situation. The attendant humanitarian consequences, as we also anticipated, are unfortunately becoming evident.

We very much regret that the Council missed an opportunity to pronounce itself clearly and with a single voice on this unfolding grave situation earlier this morning. We must not miss that opportunity again. It is essential that we express our deep concern at the escalation of violence in South Ossetia, Georgia. It is vital that the Council call on all the parties to cease hostilities, de-escalate tensions and demonstrate a preference to resolve the dispute through dialogue and negotiations rather than through the use of arms. The stakes are clearly enormous: peace and stability in the region and, not least, the safety and well-being of vulnerable civilians.

We call on all conflicting parties to exert extra efforts to protect civilians and spare them from the harm of armed violence and, thus, avert the outbreak of a humanitarian crisis. In short, it is incumbent upon the Council to mobilize its positive and collective power of persuasion and to encourage all the parties to exercise restraint and resume negotiations. That ought to come sooner rather than later.

**Statement at 5953rd meeting, Sunday, 10 August 2008, 11:35 a.m.
(The situation in Georgia)**

Over the past few days and on several occasions here in the Council, my delegation has expressed its profound concern over the escalating violence in South Ossetia, Georgia.

Today, that concern has been greatly magnified. We do not wish to repeat what is already widely known of the serious deterioration of conditions, as reported by the Secretariat. We thank Under-Secretary-General Lynn Pascoe and Assistant Secretary-General Edmond Mulet for their briefings, which were, as usual, important and informative.

However, we wish to underscore one fact that is giving rise to the deepest concern, namely, the humanitarian consequences. The lack of a collective Security Council voice on the conflict in South Ossetia, Georgia, must not extend to silence on such a humanitarian toll. Indonesia is deeply moved by the suffering being experienced by

innocent civilians — women, children and the elderly — as fighting rages around them. We wish to impress upon all conflicting parties that they should carry out their obligations under international humanitarian law. That universally recognized body of law is designed precisely to protect civilians, in particular women and children, in times of armed conflict. Immediate practical steps are needed to protect those people.

We must not allow the logic of war to prevail — a vicious cycle of violence and more violence. Instead, we must assure the ascendancy of diplomacy and the power of reason and argument over the use of force. We recognize that the inherent dispute over South Ossetia, Georgia, may not be ripe for an instant solution. However, ultimately, dialogue is the only path towards a comprehensive and lasting solution. In the midst of the grave situation in Georgia, Indonesia finds some encouragement, however tenuous, in the diplomatic efforts being made to de-escalate tensions and bring the violence to an end. We strongly support those efforts.

We wish also to emphasize the importance of communication among Council members, especially among the principals, in order to forge common ground and consensus. Once again, my delegation would like to reiterate the importance of a simple and early collective message by the Council to all the parties, unburdened by any other consideration except humanitarian ones: end the violence now.

**Statement at 5969th meeting, Thursday, 28 August 2008, 3:00 p.m.
(The situation in Georgia)**

I wish to thank the representatives of the Secretariat for the information they have shared with the Council.

Over the past weeks, Indonesia has been following closely, with considerable disquiet, the situation unfolding in Georgia, in particular the development of recent days, namely, in relation to the status of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, which clearly marks a new phase in the evolution of the issue. That development is hardly likely to enhance the prospect of achieving consensus in the Security Council. It is a development that deeply concerns us.

From the very onset of this crisis, with the attendant suffering of innocent civilians, we have consistently advocated diplomacy, dialogue and negotiation as being the only means to bring about a comprehensive and lasting solution. We have protested against the ascendancy of the logic of war and the vicious cycle of violence and more violence. Instead, we have spoken in favour of diplomacy and the power of reason and argument over the use of force.

Naturally, therefore, given the primacy that we place on dialogue and negotiation, we have drawn encouragement from the heightened diplomatic efforts in various capitals and through envoys of the highest level to bring the hostilities to an end. We have, therefore, welcomed the six-principle commitments by the parties to bring the fighting to an end. We have also consistently called for an early endorsement by the Security Council of those commitments as a means to consolidate the momentum towards peace.

I do not wish to digress. However, it is, indeed, a source of profound disappointment to us, as an elected member of the Security

Council, once again to witness the Council rendered incapable of discharging the responsibility to maintain international peace and security mandated to it by the Charter.

While the Council readily pronounces itself on a host of issues, despite a series of emergency sessions on a matter that directly impinges on that most fundamental principle that governs relations among nations, namely, respect for the territorial integrity and political independence of States, the Council still, and not for the first time, has collectively remained silent and unable to reach consensus. My delegation wishes once again to underline the need for the Council, including its permanent members, to speak with a common voice, calling on the parties concerned to engage in peaceful dialogue and negotiations to bring the crisis to an end.

Before I conclude, I should like to add some additional final thoughts. Indonesia's commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes is abiding, anchored in the belief that diplomacy and dialogue offer the best chance for a lasting solution. Equally, its commitment to the principles of the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of States, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, is steadfast and consistent. Those principles have guided and instructed Indonesia on other issues that are confronting the Security Council, including a most recent issue relating to another sovereign State Member of our Organization. Consistency is required in the application of principles. Hence, those same principles are certainly also guiding us on the present issue.

CHAPTER IV

THE AMERICAS

1. Cuba

**Statement at 5968th meeting, Wednesday, 27 August 2008, 10:25 a.m.
(Implementation of the note by the President of the
Security Council (S/2006/507))**

As a country that has consistently advocated reform of the working methods of the Security Council, Indonesia naturally strongly supports the convening of the present debate. We welcome, in particular, its open nature, as the Council can thereby benefit from the views of the wider membership of the United Nations.

We appreciate very much the important statement made by the Secretary-General reflecting the importance he attaches to the subject we are considering today.

Indonesia associates itself with the statement to be delivered later today by the representative of Cuba, on behalf on the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

My delegation attaches great weight to the measures identified in the note by the President of the Security Council contained in document S/2006/507 (19 July 2006). It is our belief that a systematic and concerted application of such measures would indeed help promote the Council's transparency, interaction with non-Council members and efficiency. My delegation is therefore encouraged to note that the two years since the note's issuance have seen some progress in its implementation.

While welcoming this development, Indonesia can also see room for further progress. It is our conviction that the objectives of greater transparency, interaction with non-Council members and efficiency are compatible. Indeed, they are quite inseparable from efforts to further enhance the legitimacy of the Council's decisions and their effectiveness.

Transparency has recently been enhanced. Monthly programmes of work and forecasts have been made available. The United Nations Journal announces both formal and informal consultations of the Council and, to a certain degree, the meetings of the subsidiary organs. Not least, we have seen efforts to give renewed impetus to open meetings.

However, not infrequently, the monthly programme of work and forecast of the Council bears little resemblance to the actual work of the Council in a given month. Unforeseen crises invariably seize the Council's attention. Meetings, including formal and informal consultations, are convened at short notice. It is incumbent that the Council recognizes that this way of working is increasingly becoming the norm, rather than the exception. Thus, it would be appropriate for the Council to further develop an information dissemination system

that responds to the dynamism of a fast evolving situation and yet is comprehensive and inclusive in its reach, in order to ensure that the wider membership of the United Nations is informed in a timely and accurate manner of the Council's activities.

We welcome the increased resort to open, formal meetings as another facet of transparency. In order to increase transparency, especially at an early stage of consideration of an issue, the Council should strive for open meetings. Indeed, unless there are strong, irrefutable arguments to the contrary, we believe that reports by the Secretary-General, already published and available to Member States, should be presented and considered at open meetings of the Security Council. It would be to the Council's advantage to hear the views of interested Member States at that stage as well. Consideration of any follow-up action by the Council may take place at its subsequent informal consultations.

Nevertheless, care needs to be exercised in evaluating the actual significance of the reported increased resort to formal meetings. We must ensure, for example, that the potential contributions of such formal meetings are fully harvested. The views of the wider membership deserve full consideration. However, not infrequently, presidential statements are issued immediately after open debates and resolutions are adopted before the views of the concerned countries are fully heard. The Council should allow sufficient time to incorporate the valuable inputs from concerned Member States.

Also, we must be cognizant of the possibility that, as resort to formal meetings becomes more common, there may be a tendency for substantive consideration of Council decisions to take place outside of formal meetings, and even outside of consultations of the whole, through such processes as the "groups of friends".

The latter brings us to the question of greater interaction with non-Council members. We support the efforts of the Council to consult with the wider membership of the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders, particularly when drafting resolutions, presidential statements and press statements. We believe such interaction has the potential not only to enhance the quality of the Council's decisions, but also to engender an equally important sense of common ownership in them, thereby strengthening the prospects for their effective implementation.

As a country that strongly espouses greater cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, Indonesia naturally attaches particular importance to the ways and means that might facilitate interaction between them. In line with resolution 1631 (2005) and the World Summit Outcome document, the Security Council has on some occasions conducted enhanced consultations and cooperation with regional and subregional organizations, as well as the Group of 77 and China, the NAM and other groupings, to speak on specific subjects in its open debates.

Investment in such interaction would help enhance the wealth of information, insights and the spectrum of perspectives that guide the Council's deliberation and decisions and also promote synergy between the Council's efforts and those of regional organizations. Of particular significance is the promotion of interaction between the Security Council and the troop-contributing countries (TCCs), not

only in the drawing up of mandates, but also in their implementation and when the situation on the ground demands it.

In short, more interaction between the Council and the wider membership of the United Nations should be promoted. A footnote, however, may be needed. It is important that such interaction be inclusive, involving each member of the Council, consistent in its application, reflecting the Council's readiness to engage with parties that may make contributions to its decision-making, and transparent. Taken to the extreme, we are concerned by situations in which discussions on draft resolutions and statements are carried out outside the Council proper, leaving less than optimal opportunities for deliberation on them within the Council.

No doubt, we are all for the promotion of efficiency in the Council's working methods. In that connection, Indonesia wishes to acknowledge the important steps the Secretariat has taken in carrying out several of the recommendations identified in the note by the President contained in document S/2006/507. I should now like to share some concluding thoughts.

Form follows function. We believe that in considering the various facets of the Council's working methods, including the possible format of Council meetings, it is important that we not lose sight of the underlying objectives or aims of the activity in question. With regard to consolidation and further progress, we believe that it is important that the progress already made in the implementation of the note by the President be consolidated and that renewed and concerted efforts be made where progress is yet to be made.

As a matter of principle, Indonesia shall consistently place a premium on working methods that promote transparency and greater interaction between the Council and the wider membership. Not least, we shall consistently place a premium on working methods that offer the best chance for the Council to speak with a common voice in carrying out its Charter-mandated responsibilities. It is imperative that the Council be transparent as well as equitable and just in its approach to all threats and disputes that imperil international peace and stability. We seek a Council that safeguards the interests of all and whose decisions and actions are in full consonance with the established principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

CHAPTER V

OTHER ISSUES

1. Briefings by USG or Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the UNSC

**Statement at 5679th meeting, Tuesday, 22 May 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council)**

My delegation would like to thank the Chairmen of the 1267 Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the 1540 Committee for their respective briefings on their activities. We would like to take this opportunity to extend to them our deep appreciation for their untiring efforts to move forward the work of the Committees.

I should now like to comment briefly on each presentation.

Indonesia is grateful to Ambassador Johan Verbeke for his strong leadership of the 1267 Committee and welcomes the progress made in its work. We hope that the current and future activities of the Committee, as presented by its Chairman, will significantly contribute to global efforts against terrorism, particularly against Al-Qaida and the Taliban.

My delegation would like to reiterate its position to the effect that the current and future work of the Committee should involve fair and clear procedures for the processes of listing, delisting and granting exceptions. We recommend that the need to mainstream procedural fairness and assert human rights principles be adequately addressed by the Committee, especially in its evaluation of the implementation of resolutions 1730 (2006) and 1735 (2006).

We also attach great importance to the further improvement of the quality of the consolidated list, particularly in terms of enhancing its completeness and accuracy. Lack of completeness and of accuracy will prevent the consolidated list from serving as a useful operational tool in counter-terrorism matters. Having said that, we deem it essential that the Security Council and the Committee continue to promote transparency in the procedures involved in both the listing and delisting processes.

As far as the review mechanism is concerned, my delegation welcomes the initiative to review more than 100 individuals and entities by July 2007. In that regard, we would also like to stress that the process should be substantive and not aim merely to update existing information. The review should consider all relevant information, including a statement of justification for the inclusion of a particular name of an individual or entity on the consolidated list.

With regard to the issue of compliance, my delegation would like to highlight the increasing number of legal cases challenging the implementation of sanctions at the national level. Given that this increasing litigation is capable of affecting States' compliance in the implementation of sanctions, the Security Council should direct the

Committee to study the legal problems arising from national implementation and recommend ways of resolving the matter.

With regard to the presentation made by the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, Ambassador Ricardo Alberto Arias, my delegation expresses its appreciation for his excellent work. My delegation underlines the importance in the carrying out of that work of cooperation, transparency, even-handedness and consistency of approach as the fundamental guiding principles of the work of the CTC.

It is my delegation's wish that the future programme of work of the CTC also include a clear direction for the Committee so as to ensure the comprehensive and balanced implementation of resolution 1624 (2005). While maintaining the importance of the prohibition of incitement, my delegation emphasizes the need to take effective measures to promote dialogue among civilizations, interfaith dialogue and respect for international law and human rights.

With regard to the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, it is our view that the adoption of the Strategy requires further development in the work of the three counter-terrorism committees, particularly the CTC. My delegation therefore supports the role of the CTC in the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

My delegation wishes also to thank the Chairman of the 1540 Committee, Ambassador Peter Burian, for his untiring efforts in guiding the Committee in the fulfilment of its task and of the mandate conferred on it by resolutions 1540 (2004) and 1673 (2006). It is important, in our view, that the Committee should continue to proceed faithfully with its work within the context of its mandate and continue to be guided by the principles of cooperation, transparency, equal treatment and consistency.

Let me also take this opportunity to highlight several points my delegation considers essential in the continuation of the Committee's work.

We believe that technical assistance is an important contributing element to the successful implementation of the resolution. The technical assistance programme would be more appealing and might lead to a better response from recipient States if it also addressed their larger needs and priorities and was not confined only to addressing their capacity needs strictly in the non-proliferation area. Recognizing that the implementation of the resolution is a national responsibility, we believe that assistance should be conducted as cooperation between provider and recipient, and not be perceived as an imposition.

As to the issue of reporting, we note that, for almost three years, the focus of the Committee has mainly been on encouraging compliance with the reporting requirement. While noting that reporting is indeed important as a baseline for analysis, it is not the objective of the resolution. The key point is the implementation of all of the provisions of the resolutions. For developing countries with limited resources and many other equally pressing priorities, the increasing burden of reporting in its various forms could be overwhelming.

Finally, when resolution 1540 was adopted two years ago, concerns were expressed that the Security Council had taken on a

legislative role in which it was dictating domestic law to Member States and enforcing non-proliferation obligations outside the traditional multilateral process. As we draw closer to the end of the mandate of the 1540 Committee, it is my delegation's view that we could now start to work towards a multilaterally negotiated instrument that would permanently address the gap that is being temporarily filled by this resolution.

**Statement at 5779th meeting, Wednesday, 14 November 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council)**

I should like to preface Indonesia's comments by expressing our thanks to the Chairmen of the 1267 Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the 1540 Committee for their comprehensive briefings on their respective work. My delegation commends once again the quality of the work undertaken by the three terrorism-related Committees. I also wish to use this opportunity to extend our appreciation for their initiative to deliver a joint statement of the Committees. We are of the view that such an approach reflects greater coordination among subsidiary bodies of the Security Council entrusted to deal with terrorism.

With regard to the 1267 Committee, I would like to reassert Indonesia's unwavering commitment to promote the effective implementation, legitimacy and credibility of the 1267 sanctions regime. We are fully committed to joint efforts to improve the quality of the consolidated list, particularly through enhancing its completeness and accuracy. My delegation has some concern about the fact that there has been mixed support by Member States in implementing the sanctions regime.

In line with observations made by the Monitoring Team of the 1267 Committee, my delegation identified some underlying causes of the situation that should be adequately addressed by the Committee. We have noted a growing perception that the current procedure is not adequately fair and clear. The perception of unfairness in the application of targeted sanctions has also generated concerns in several countries. Moreover, the growing number of legal cases in the national courts of Member States questioning the conformity of the sanctions measures with human rights principles will potentially pose significant challenges to the efficacy and credibility of the 1267 sanctions regime.

My delegation is of the view that mainstreaming procedural fairness and asserting human rights principles in the work of the Committee will also strengthen the effectiveness of the implementation of the 1267 sanctions regime. Legitimacy and credibility of the sanctions regime will also depend, in large part, on its procedural fairness.

We welcome the adoption of resolution 1730 (2006), by which a focal point for receiving de-listing requests from individuals has been established, as an achievement for the improvement of sanctions procedures. However, my delegation maintains that the establishment of such a focal point has yet to meet the minimum standard required to ensure fair and clear procedure. In that regard, my delegation attaches great importance to the basic elements of minimum standards

as indicated in the letter of the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council dated 15 June 2006.

On the issue of compliance, my delegation welcomes the commitment of the Committee to develop specific and general recommendations based on an analysis of what could be done to prevent possible non-compliance, including by identifying the challenges and difficulties faced by States in implementing the sanctions. We should not lose sight of the fact that an overly imperious approach to ensuring compliance could jeopardize the high level of cooperation that has been consistently shown by States.

Now let me touch upon the briefing on the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. My delegation underscores the role played by the CTC in creating and sustaining international momentum to strengthen counter-terrorism efforts. Cooperation, transparency, even-handedness and consistency in approach must always be guiding principles of the work of the CTC.

Indonesia underlines the importance of thorough and consistent analysis by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) of the implementation by Member States of resolution 1373 (2001). Indonesia also welcomes the adoption of Preliminary Implementation Assessments (PIAs) as an effective tool to enhance the CTC's ability to evaluate the implementation of the resolution. On the quality of the PIAs that have been discussed in the CTC, we have identified some areas of their content that should be further improved.

With regard to the visits carried out by CTED, I would like to reiterate their significance, particularly in promoting a better understanding of the progress of all States in meeting their obligations and in collecting information about their needs. With a view to promoting the credibility of the visits as one of the objective tools for assessing the implementation of Member States, we emphasize the need for CTED to employ a more balanced approach in proposing the States to be visited to the CTC. We believe that visiting developing and developed countries would also generate some positive impacts and benefits for the work of the CTC.

Concerning the expiration of the mandate of CTED on 31 December 2007, as provided for in resolution 1535 (2004), I should like to suggest that the Security Council start considering the matter at its earliest convenience. My delegation is ready to engage in a comprehensive evaluation of the work of CTED in reinforcing the functions of the CTC.

Turning to the 1540 (2004) Committee, I would like to reassert Indonesia's supports for the main tasks of the Committee: promoting global capacity and raising international standards for implementing the resolution. In our view, the work of the Committee should be done within its mandate and be guided by the principles of cooperation, transparency and equal treatment. Indonesia will, as always, continue to actively support and participate in the work of the Committee.

As for the issue of reporting on the implementation of the resolution, we should acknowledge that resolution 1540 (2004) reporting requirements are perceived by some Member States as too complicated and unsuited to the capabilities of many developing countries. For developing countries with limited resources and many other equally pressing priorities, the increasing burden of reporting in

its various forms can be overwhelming. That is a fact that should be adequately addressed by the Committee in considering any additional measure to achieve full implementation of the resolution.

Finally, my delegation believes that the full implementation of resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004) can be effectively carried out through continuous efforts, patience, dialogue, cooperation and assistance. In that regard, we underline the significance of outreach activities and technical assistance. Such efforts have positive implications for the comprehensive implementation of the resolutions. As far as the provision of technical assistance is concerned, Indonesia stresses that it should be provided upon the request of a State in a way that respects sovereignty and national priorities.

**Statement at 5792nd meeting, Thursday, 6 December 2007, 10:40 a.m.
(Briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for
Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator)**

I would like to join others in thanking the Under-Secretary-General, Mr. John Holmes, for his briefing on his recent mission to Ethiopia, the Sudan and Somalia.

The humanitarian situation in those regions today requires our utmost attention and priority. Inhabitants and refugee populations are forced to cope with exceedingly difficult conditions in an inhospitable environment, the legacy of conflict and environmental degradation. The scale of humanitarian needs in these regions is overwhelming, with varying degrees of calamity and challenge. Mr. Holmes's briefing also highlights the varying degrees of success in local, national and international efforts in these regions.

The humanitarian situation in Ethiopia, particularly in the Ogaden region, remains a source of concern. Civilian casualties caused by the counterinsurgency are deeply regrettable and must be avoided. Indeed, avoiding civilian casualties in the process of seeking to stabilize the region should be a priority. We welcome continued discussions between the Secretariat and the Government of Ethiopia on ways in which the United Nations could support the Government in its efforts to provide relief to affected populations.

In the Darfur region of the Sudan, we remain concerned with the violence and displacement that continue unabated. It is troubling that in October alone more than 30,000 civilians were displaced by clashes between the parties in Darfur, including among Darfur movements themselves, and that humanitarian workers continue to be assaulted, harassed and even killed.

We find it unacceptable that vehicles belonging to the humanitarian community continue to be carjacked — 128 this year and 13 in November alone — and used, directly or indirectly, to prolong the conflict. These carjackings and other kinds of banditry have further hampered humanitarian efforts for the people of Darfur.

We urge all sides to cooperate with the United Nations and other actors engaged in humanitarian efforts in order to contribute to stability on the ground at this perilous time. We note that the Joint Communiqué between the Government of the Sudan and the Secretariat has proved to be a good mechanism for addressing humanitarian concerns, particularly those which relate to bureaucratic

issues. We support continued constructive dialogue with the Sudanese Government in order to ensure that the people of Darfur receive the assistance they need.

We are also of the view that internally displaced persons in Darfur should only return to their homes voluntarily and under safe conditions. It is indeed desirable that people be able to return to their places of origin and resume their normal lives as soon as possible.

With regard to Somalia, we deeply regret that that country is facing one of its worst humanitarian crises in years. The humanitarian situation is, in many ways, worse than that in Darfur, due to the inability to reach those in need with humanitarian supplies and aid. We should strive to improve the situation through our aid efforts to the extent possible. I echo appeals to all those with guns, whether they be Government, insurgent or Ethiopian troops, to cease indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks affecting civilians.

As we move forward with our humanitarian efforts, we are all reminded that these conflicts are the result of the inability to resolve political problems without the use of force. As has been said before, humanitarian assistance is like a Band-Aid over an open wound. We need to heal the wound, and a Band-Aid alone is insufficient to do so.

Finally, I should underline the importance of observing the international principles of humanitarian assistance, which include humanity, neutrality and impartiality, as well as full respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of States.

Statement at 5886th meeting, Tuesday, 6 May 2008, 10:00 a.m.

(Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council)

My delegation too wishes to congratulate you, Sir, and the delegation of the United Kingdom on your assumption of the presidency for this month. We also wish to thank South Africa and to congratulate it on its able stewardship of the Council last month.

My delegation appreciates the important briefing by the Chairmen of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), the 1267 Committee and the 1540 Committee. We would like to express our appreciation to the Chairmen for their able leadership of the work of those Committees.

Today's briefings clearly reflect the significance of the close cooperation among the three Committees dealing with counter-terrorism issues. We are of the view that this cooperation will not only be crucial for the work of the Committees, but also will be essential for synergy and coherence in the Council's contribution to countering the threat posed by terrorism. To this end, my delegation recalls the intention of the Council to provide guidance to the three Committees on areas of common interest in order to better coordinate counter-terrorism efforts stipulated in resolution 1805 (2008).

With regard to the briefing on the Counter-Terrorism Committee, we duly note the Committee's accomplishments on several key initiatives, which will serve as a sound basis for its future work. My delegation is of the view that the revised organizational plan could strengthen the role of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) to enhance the CTC's ability to monitor the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). We share the view that the recommendations contained in the organizational plan could

consolidate the achievements of CTED, and could eventually intensify the work of the CTC.

My delegation recognizes the significance of the adoption of Preliminary Implementation Assessments (PIAs) as a tool to intensify dialogue between the CTC and Member States on the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). PIAs are dynamic documents, and we hope that the CTC will continue to further improve the consistency and accuracy of their content. On the issue of a revised version of the "Survey of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) by Member States", we would like to underline the need for the CTC to present a more accurate picture in finalizing the survey.

On the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005), my delegation reiterates the importance of CTED's support for the work of the CTC in ensuring comprehensive implementation of the resolution. For its part, Indonesia actively continues its efforts to promote cultural dialogue, tolerance and mutual understanding with religious communities and among civilizations.

With regard to the briefing on the 1267 Committee, I would like to use this opportunity to reiterate our strong commitment to the promotion of the effective implementation of the sanctions regime adopted under resolution 1267 (1999) by improving the quality of the consolidated list. We are of the view that our joint efforts to improve the quality of the consolidated list, particularly through enhancing its completeness and accuracy, should contribute generally to the effectiveness of the implementation of resolution 1267 (1999). In this context, my delegation fully supports the intention of the Committee to evaluate the review mechanism of the consolidated list, as provided for in paragraph 6 (i) of the Committee's guidelines.

While fully supporting the effort to identify possible cases of non-compliance, my delegation maintains its view that the Council, in considering the compliance of Member States, should also take into account their achievements in combating Al-Qaida and its affiliates through robust national criminal law enforcement. The problem of non-compliance may be caused not only by lack of political will or insufficient understanding of the sanctions regime, but also by legal deficiencies of procedure applicable to the listing and de-listing processes. My delegation therefore is of the view that the Security Council should give its utmost and urgent attention to the issue of further improving fair and clear procedure. We are convinced that addressing this issue will also improve and promote effective implementation of the regime at the national level.

Turning to the briefing on the 1540 Committee, I would like to reassert Indonesia's support for the main tasks of the Committee, namely promoting global capacity and raising international standards for implementing the resolution. We are also pleased to note that the Council, through resolution 1810 (2008), has extended the mandate of the Committee for a period of three years.

Since the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) is a long-term objective and an ongoing process, we hope that in its future work the Committee will continue to place priority on dialogue and cooperation with Member States on their need to fulfil their obligations under the resolution. In this regard, my delegation stresses that the responsibility for implementation of the resolution rests fully with national Governments, whereas international and regional

organizations can continue to assist them upon their request and needs.

Finally, my delegation reiterates the importance of continued and strengthened cooperation among the 1267, Counter-Terrorism and 1540 Committees. My delegation would also like to underline that full implementation of resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004) can be effectively carried out through continuous efforts, patience, dialogue, cooperation and assistance.

**Statement at 6015th meeting, Wednesday, 12 November 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the
Security Council)**

First of all, let me join previous speakers in thanking President Urbina, Ambassador Grauls and Ambassador Jurica for their briefings as the Chairmen, respectively, of the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1540 (2004), 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001). We would also like to express our appreciation to the Chairmen for their able leadership of the work of the Committees.

With respect to the briefing regarding the 1267 Committee, on Al-Qaida and the Taliban, I would like to reassert Indonesia's commitment to promote the effective implementation, legitimacy and credibility of the sanctions regime established by resolution 1267 (1999). It is in that regard that my delegation welcomes the efforts made in a number of areas to further ensure that fair and clear procedures exist for placing and removing individuals and entities on the consolidated list, as well as for the granting of humanitarian exemptions.

The issue of fair and clear procedures always draws the attention of Member States implementing sanctions regimes. In that connection, we have noted a growing perception that the current procedures have some legal deficiencies that may hinder effective implementation at the national level. The increasing number of legal cases in national and regional courts, in particular following the ruling of the European Court of Justice in the cases of Al-Qadi and Al-Barakat on 3 September 2008, will potentially pose challenges to the efficacy and credibility of the 1267 sanctions regime.

Furthermore, my delegation wishes to highlight that resolution 1822 (2008) clearly directs the Committee, as a matter of priority, to review its guidelines with respect to provisions of the resolution, in particular those relating to narrative summaries of reasons for listing and review of the names on the consolidated list. We wish to underline the importance of the Committee's continuing to focus its work on that particular task.

My delegation also attaches particular importance to the direction of the Council on the review of all names on the consolidated list, including those reported to be deceased. Paragraphs 22 and 23 of resolution 1822 (2008) specifically emphasize that that effort should be carried out in order to ensure that the consolidated list is as up to date and accurate as possible and to confirm that the listings remain appropriate. We are therefore of the view that, in reviewing its guidelines, the Committee can achieve substantive progress by fully taking into account the ultimate objectives of the exercise, as outlined by the Council in the resolution.

With regard to the Counter-Terrorism Committee, my delegation also welcomes the significant progress made in recent months, in particular the continued analysis of preliminary implementation assessments (PIAs). As an innovative tool both to address the problem of reporting fatigue and to gather updated information on each State's implementation, the PIA process should be further sustained. In the light of that, Indonesia fully supports the exercise of stocktaking of each Member State's implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). The Committee should therefore enhance its dialogue with each State and strengthen its counter-terrorism capacity.

Concerning the briefing on the 1540 Committee, Indonesia continues to value the significant role that Committee is playing in promoting the implementation of the resolution. For its part, Indonesia will certainly continue its active support for the Committee's work in all areas.

We duly note the progress made by the Committee since the last joint briefing to the Security Council. My delegation welcomes the second report on the status of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) (see S/2008/493), submitted by the Committee in July 2008. As the full implementation of the resolution is a long-term objective and an ongoing process, it is our hope that the report will facilitate the Council's provision of strategic guidance to the Committee on the promotion of and assistance in effective implementation at the national, regional and international levels, in particular through dialogue and cooperation with Member States.

Finally, my delegation welcomes the continued interaction and coordination among the three Committees and their experts groups within the framework of the ongoing dialogue with Member States. We are of the view that that cooperation will not only be crucial for the work of the Committees but that it will also be essential for synergy and coherence in the Council's contribution to countering the threat posed by terrorism.

2. Children and armed Conflict

**Statement at 5936th meeting, Thursday, 17 July 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Children and armed conflict)**

Allow me first to join others in thanking Viet Nam, our fellow Association of Southeast Asian Nations member, for initiating this very important meeting. We are pleased to see you, Sir, presiding over this debate and we are certain that, under your able stewardship, this meeting will arrive at a successful outcome.

We also wish to thank the Secretary-General for his statement and Special Representative of the Secretary-General Coomaraswamy, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Mullet, Executive Director Veneman and Ms. Hunt for their respective important statements. My delegation would also like to express our support for Ambassador Ripert of France, Chairman of the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, for his statement and his leadership of the Working Group.

The issue that brings us together today is an essential tragedy of conflict situations — the tragedy of the youngest victims. From

Palestine to Iraq, from Afghanistan to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and elsewhere, children are casualties and victims of war. The plight of children in armed conflict continues to grip this Council.

With thousands of children bearing arms as child soldiers and countless others thought to be affected in other ways, children also suffer from the spread of diseases and underdevelopment in armed conflicts. While thousands of children die every year in direct fighting, malnutrition and disease also claim many lives. Efforts to protect former child soldiers and child victims should therefore be conducted beyond the framework of security or rights-based issues. Indonesia has been steadfast in its position that this issue should also be discussed within the framework of the social, economic and development frameworks.

Often separated from their families and living in the squalid conditions in war zones, those children are greatly in need of psychological as well as physical intervention. Childhood, then, becomes a nightmare in which they are separated from parents and family, their homes are destroyed, health and education services are disrupted and trust is undermined. Watching parents being murdered, raped or tortured or being threatened themselves puts extreme pressure on children's coping mechanisms, manifesting in extreme anxiety and insomnia and difficulty functioning in school or depression.

The international donor community must therefore continue to provide long-term and sustainable assistance to facilitate the full recovery of children. Such assistance should and must be provided without political preconditions. Wherever and whenever there are children affected by armed conflict, we should devote our full energy and passion to assisting them. Our political aspirations and ideological differences should not prevent the attainment of our common objective.

Such assistance will require an approach that includes development and humanitarian dimensions, undergirded by the political will of States. In that regard, the United Nations Development Programme and its development partners, as well as UNICEF and the World Health Organization, must be continuously engaged to increase their development and humanitarian initiatives that help countries in need.

With the growing complexity and intricacy of world affairs, the United Nations is surely not in a position to tackle the entirety of the issue of protection of children. We therefore recognize the pivotal role that can be provided by regional organizations in addressing the multifaceted aspects of the issue. In addition, we also welcome and commend the increasing role of non-governmental organizations, such as the Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, and other civil society organizations.

However, we strongly believe that the best protection from armed conflict is in preventing it and addressing its sources at their roots. That should be done in the context of peace processes, as stipulated by resolution 1612 (2005). Thus the Security Council, as mandated by the Charter, must continuously promote peace processes so that those children can be protected.

As a newly established body, the Working Group must continue to update, refine and strengthen its working methods. For that reason,

we cannot but commend the efforts of the Working Group to improve its working methods in order to maintain its impartiality, transparency, accountability, inclusivity and constructive cooperation with the countries concerned.

In addition, the Working Group should provide clear guidelines on how to define a clear strategy for countries or parties to be delisted from the annexes. While demands to parties to armed conflict must be fully monitored and reported, it is equally pertinent that clear, objective and measurable guidelines be in place.

Finally, let us not, as Special Representative Coomaraswamy has said, allow children to be the forgotten and neglected victims of the fighting and put future generations at risk. Let us work towards a world in which there is more humanity, more caring and more gentleness and in which children are valued and protected, starting here with this Council and its initiatives. To conclude, allow me to therefore assure the Council of our full support for the adoption of the draft presidential statement on this very important matter.

3. Letter addressed to the President of the UNSC

Statement at 5663rd meeting, Tuesday, 17 April 2007, 10:00 a.m.

(Letter dated 5 April 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2007/186))

My delegation associates itself with the statements to be made later by the representative of Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and by the representative of Cuba on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some pertinent points relating to the issue before us. While my delegation can agree with the objectives of this debate relating to raising awareness of future potential risks and threats that the international community faces with regard to energy, security and climate, we also believe that it should not create a precedent for the future work of the Security Council. We consider that this issue is being addressed, and should be addressed more effectively, in other forums of the United Nations system, including the Commission on Sustainable Development, which will deliberate on the issue of energy and climate change at its fifteenth session.

My delegation is of the view that future threats to security posed by climate change must be prevented. We therefore call on all States to adhere to the Rio principles, especially the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. In this regard, developed countries should immediately implement their commitments, particularly with regard to means of implementation. Without that, the adverse impact of climate change will not only continue to cause a deterioration in the environment, but also increase poverty and impede economic development, which are closely linked to potential security threats.

Realizing the formidable challenges ahead of us on issues of energy and climate change, we should seize the opportunity to reach global consensus on ways to adapt to and mitigate climate change in the relevant forums. The upcoming fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in New York in May, and particularly the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – to be held in Bali, Indonesia, this coming December – are two very important forums in which the issue of climate change and energy should be deliberated.

We believe that the success of the deliberations at those two meetings would contribute to creating an environment conducive to preventing the potential negative effects of climate change to security.

**Statement at 5938th meeting, Friday, 18 July 2008, 10:15 a.m.
(Letter dated 22 November 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/920))**

Let me begin by joining previous speakers in thanking Mr. Ian Martin, Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Nepal, for his briefing, and in thanking the Secretary-General for his report (S/2008/454).

After years of internal conflict, Nepal deserves peace, stability and prosperity. Momentum in realizing this hope is now evolving in Nepal. We congratulate the people and the Government of Nepal on the successful conclusion of the Constituent Assembly election and on the progress made towards a democratic, representative process and the creation of a federal democratic republic.

That accomplishment is indeed a historic triumph for the people of Nepal, and we are looking forward to the successful holding of the presidential election tomorrow. The role of the Nepalese Electoral Commission in the Constituent Assembly election is commendable. The Commission has served as an important catalyst in the promotion of electoral democracy in the country. My delegation also recognizes the 25 June 2008 signing by the Seven-Party Alliance of an agreement which provides for the time-bound solution of some key issues in the peace process.

Those achievements should serve as a stepping stone for further tangible progress on other critical goals as stipulated in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). We therefore believe that all concerned parties in Nepal should remain committed to the peace process and exercise the utmost restraint with regard to actions that could undermine the peace process.

The conclusion of the Constituent Assembly election is only the beginning of the hard work of hammering out a democratic process and the formation of a representative government. In the post-election period, there remain critical matters that the future government of Nepal will have to tackle.

As the Secretary-General observed in his report, completion of the peace process remains a challenge. Management of arms and arms personnel still needs to be completed; this is one of the main pillars of the CPA. Former combatants have yet to be integrated and rehabilitated. That will require not only sufficient funding but also

institutional and administrative measures. In this regard, my delegation attaches great importance to the formation of a special committee mandated to verify combatants and to integrate and rehabilitate them.

Robust democracy in Nepal will come about if support is truly popular and includes all segments of Nepalese society across political lines and ethnicity. In this regard, we welcome the representation of a variety of ethnic groups that had previously been under-represented in the Assembly.

With regard to the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), my delegation commends the Mission, under the leadership of Mr. Martin, for the technical assistance and advisory services it provided to the Nepalese authorities before and during the election. With the successful conclusion of the election, my delegation welcomes the Secretary-General's recommendation for a phased, gradual drawdown and withdrawal of UNMIN staff. As to the future of UNMIN, we take note of the Government of Nepal's letter of 8 July 2008 which, inter alia, requests an extension of the remainder of UNMIN's mandate for an additional six months.

Indonesia believes that since UNMIN's deployment was requested by Nepal, its future should naturally be decided by the people and the Government of that country. For its part, the Council should stand ready to respond to the wishes of the Nepalese people unanimously and decisively, as it did when UNMIN was established in January 2007. Indonesia thus supports the request of the Government of Nepal and the recommendation of the Secretary-General, as just conveyed by Mr. Ian Martin, for the extension of the mandate of UNMIN for a period of six months. Continuing on a smaller scale, UNMIN could focus on the ongoing work of monitoring the management of arms and armed personnel, and assisting Nepal in moving the peace process towards its conclusion.

4. Maintenance of international peace and security

**Statement 5692nd meeting, Tuesday, 20 February 2007, 11:00 a.m.
(The maintenance of international peace and security: role of the Security Council in supporting security sector reform)**

At the outset, Mr. President, I would like, on behalf of my delegation, to extend our appreciation to you and your delegation for having convened this open debate on the role of the Security Council in supporting security sector reform.

Security sector reform (SSR) remains a contentious and complex subject. This forum is therefore beneficial in that it gives us an opportunity to have an exchange of ideas and experiences on the subject in a complementary manner, with a view to obtaining a better picture of the subject and of the role of the United Nations in general, and the Security Council in particular, in that regard.

My delegation recognizes that reform of the security sector at the country level can take place at any point in the development of a country, but the urgency of SSR is generally strong and its manifestation particularly noticeable when the country in question is

experiencing a transformation, including democratic transition, or when it is emerging from a conflict situation.

In both contexts, reform in the security sector is interlinked with reform in other sectors. When crafted carefully and implemented consistently, and when the participation of civil society is ensured, reforms in different sectors will be mutually reinforcing.

Some seven years ago, Indonesians were facing the challenges and multidimensional problems resulting from the Asian financial crisis. Yet the crisis did not stop Indonesians from pursuing transformation in the political, economic, legal, and governmental landscapes. They embraced democracy — in fact, Indonesians regarded that democratic transition as a means of salvation and of recovery from the crisis.

Based on its experiences, Indonesia holds the view that reform in the security sector will be meaningful if national ownership is present and if the participation of various stakeholders is ensured. Reform in one sector will lay the foundation for reform in other sectors. Security sector reform should be pursued in a manner which is neither too hasty nor too drawn out.

As far as the United Nations approach to the subject is concerned, we underline that such an approach should be confined to post-conflict contexts. The demand for coherence and coordination in supporting SSR activities in post-conflict situations warrants managerial and institutional reform at Headquarters as well as at the field level. Agencies within the United Nations system that have SSR support programmes should collaborate more closely and coherently.

My delegation also underlines the central role that the Peacebuilding Commission can play in enhancing the United Nations capacity to support security sector reform and the effectiveness of the United Nations mission in strengthening such reform as part of peacebuilding efforts. We welcome the intention of the Peacebuilding Commission to consider the SSR aspect of peacebuilding strategies in Burundi and Sierra Leone.

My delegation believes that SSR should be nationally owned and rooted in the particular needs and conditions of the country concerned. It is a national project that requires leadership on the Government's part and participatory contributions from civil society.

For post-conflict countries, security sector reform often requires substantial resources. We believe that financial and technical assistance from the international community would be meaningful for such countries in helping them to cope with resource challenges and in building national capacities that could strengthen national ownership of SSR.

Diversity in security sector reform should be respected. In our view, there is no single type of SSR that can fit all situations. That should not, however, prevent us from generating lessons learned and best practices.

Security sector reform is a long-term process and requires steadiness and unflagging commitment from the country concerned. Rushing SSR has the potential to ruin a country's institutional foundation and to uproot its indigenous components. There is no universal blueprint for SSR, and its implementation depends on the basic needs of national political processes and dynamics. There is therefore no quick-fix solution for post-conflict security sector reform. Accordingly, my delegation emphasizes the need for a balanced

realization of all aspects of security sector reform, including institutional capacity, the affordability and sustainability of programmes, sequencing, timing and flexibility.

As regards the role of the Security Council in supporting SSR activities in a post-conflict environment, we believe that the Council could propose, through its mission mandates, the parameters for security sector reform in post-conflict countries, particularly in the transition from an initial peacekeeping activity to post-conflict peacebuilding programmes. In order to develop viable SSR structures, the Council should consult with relevant organs within the United Nations system, including the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, and should take into account the concerns of the countries involved.

Finally, my delegation wishes to reaffirm its commitment to participating in an active and constructive manner in future discussions of the subject.

**Statement at 5776th meeting, Tuesday, 6 November 2007, 3:00 p.m.
(The role of regional and subregional organizations in the
maintenance of international peace and security)**

“The Security Council reaffirms its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

“The Security Council recognizes the important role of regional and subregional organizations in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations as well as its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 1625 (2005) and 1631 (2005), and previous relevant presidential statements on cooperation with regional and subregional organizations.

“The Security Council emphasizes that the growing contribution made by regional and subregional organizations in cooperation with the United Nations can usefully support the work of the Organization in maintaining international peace and security, and stresses in this regard that such contribution should be made in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations.

“The Security Council further recognizes that regional and subregional organizations are well positioned to understand the root causes of many conflicts and other security challenges close to home and to influence their prevention or resolution, owing to their knowledge of the region.

“The Security Council recalls its determination to take appropriate steps to further the development of cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security. It welcomes recent developments with regard to the cooperation between the United Nations, the African Union and the European Union.

“The Security Council, while maintaining the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, encourages regional and subregional organizations to strengthen and increase cooperation among them, including to enhance their

respective capacity, in the maintenance of international peace and security. The Security Council underlines the importance of the United Nations political support and technical expertise in this regard.

"The Security Council encourages regional cooperation, including through the involvement of regional and subregional organizations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, and intends to consult closely with them whenever appropriate on their role in future peacekeeping operations as well as political and integrated missions authorized by the Security Council.

"The Security Council stresses the need to develop effective partnership between the Council and regional and subregional organizations in order to enable early response to disputes and emerging crises.

"The Security Council underlines the importance of exploring the potential and existing capacities of regional and subregional organizations in the field of peace and security, covering, inter alia, the spectrum of conflict prevention, confidence-building, conflict resolution, peacemaking, peacekeeping, and post-conflict peacebuilding, and welcomes regional dialogue and the promotion of shared norms as well as common regional approaches to the settlement of disputes and other issues relating to peace and security.

"The Security Council stresses the potential role of regional and subregional organizations in addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and the need to take into account in the peacekeeping operations' mandates, where appropriate, the regional instruments enabling States to identify and trace illegal small arms and light weapons.

"The Security Council welcomes the efforts undertaken by its subsidiary bodies with responsibilities in counter-terrorism to foster cooperation with regional and subregional organizations, notes with appreciation the efforts made by an increasing number of regional and subregional organizations in countering terrorism and urges all relevant regional and subregional organizations to enhance the effectiveness of their counter-terrorism efforts within their respective mandates and in accordance with international law, including with a view to develop their capacity to help Member States in their efforts to tackle the threats to international peace and security posed by acts of terrorism.

"The Security Council recognizes the importance of promoting the identification and further development of modalities which enhance the contribution of regional and subregional organizations to the work of the Council in maintaining international peace and security in accordance with Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter. For that purpose, the Council deems it useful to consider further strengthening its interaction and cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations. The Council recognizes the Peacebuilding Commission, in its area of competence, as a forum for coordination in the area of post-conflict between the United Nations system and regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with its resolution 1645 (2005) and General Assembly resolution 60/180.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to include in his report pursuant to its presidential statement of 28 March 2007 (S/PRST/2007/7) a recommendation on practical ways and means to increase and strengthen cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security.

"The Security Council invites all Member States to contribute more actively to the strengthening of the capacity of regional and subregional organizations in all parts of the world, in issues relating to the maintenance of international peace and security."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2007/42.

There are no further speakers inscribed on my list. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

**Statement at 5705th meeting, Monday, 25 June 2008, 10:20 a.m.
(Maintenance of international peace and security)**

At the outset, allow me to express my appreciation to the delegation of Belgium for organizing this timely meeting on the issue of natural resources and conflict. My delegation is certain that, under the able stewardship of Minister Karel Gucht, the Council will arrive at a successful outcome.

Natural resources serve to support the world economy. They provide the foundations for economic development and can lead to great wealth. Stability and security arise simultaneously. Natural resources enable countries to build a solid foundation for future generations to reap the benefits of today's wise decisions. Natural resources are a gift and a source of blessings for any given country. They also play an important role in fuelling the global economy. In today's world, a nation may be in possession of vast quantities of a certain natural resource. However, it requires human ingenuity to turn such a resource into a valuable commodity. Human ingenuity can produce marvels, but it has also caused many calamities in the past and will undoubtedly do so in the future. The fact that this issue is being discussed in this body is acknowledgment of the potential of natural resources for both progress and problems.

As has been explained by others, the failure to implement principles and policies of good governance can be a factor in fuelling armed conflicts. Proper management of natural resources is certainly one way to address this issue, as is investment in the design and application of sustainable economic development policy. Domestic and foreign companies in the extraction industry can be encouraged to implement the principles of corporate social responsibility.

My delegation fully subscribes to the view that countries facing difficulty in the management of their natural resources should invest more effort in strengthening the rule of law. For our part, Indonesia is continuously trying to improve its legal system and law enforcement institutions. We can list a number of policies and strategies to increase our capacity to withstand internal shocks. However, that alone would be insufficient. To secure stability, a country equally has to have the capacity to withstand external shocks. External shocks are beyond the

capacity of many United Nations Member States to address individually.

In our view, it is imperative that external factors be taken into account when we discuss the link between armed conflicts and natural resources. The extraction of natural resources can be realized only if it meets several criteria, which include the possession of high technology and extensive capital and the existence of a reliable and functioning market. The latter is sometimes overlooked.

For my delegation, one of the key issues in discussing this topic is the role of the international market and its participants. A particular type of natural resource would neither attract attention nor incite fierce competition if it did not have considerable value or carry with it the expectation that it could become valuable. It can be in terms of strategic value or financial value.

In a world marked by interdependence and inter-connectivity at the regional and global levels, one action in one part of the globe would have a direct impact on another part of the world. The extraction of a particular natural resource would have an impact elsewhere. A surge of demand in one part of the world would increase pressure to find it at any cost.

As well as acknowledging the responsibility of the source country, we believe that destination or transit countries also have a major role to play. They could be a source of armed conflict. All of us have a shared responsibility to prevent and act against acts that fuel armed conflicts. To emphasize heavily the responsibility of the source country without highlighting the responsibility of transit and destination countries would prevent us from having a profound discussion. It is this trinity that we must bear in mind.

Let me underline that natural resources would fail to bring benefit to anyone, if such commodities could not reach the market. Sellers, buyers and users thus have equal responsibility in preventing natural resources from being used to fuel armed conflicts.

Past practices of violent and blatant competition to possess natural resources may have ceased to exist. Many went to extremes in order to satisfy their insatiable appetites for valuable natural resources, thus leaving countries and nations destitute. No one can guarantee that these practices will not be repeated in another place or time. History does not exactly repeat itself, but it does rhyme. What differentiates one era from another is that there are different players and different contacts.

Nevertheless, the aim is still similar and shaped by different market factors. Gold and black gold are some of the most valuable commodities of our lifetime. In years to come, other energy-sensitive commodities will have taken their place and will drive competition, leading to armed conflicts.

From our perspective, it is clear that fierce competition for possession of valuable natural resources fuels armed conflict. It is not and cannot be the natural resource as such that is responsible. Thus, in order to address this issue effectively, the Council must acknowledge that its vast power has limitations. It can impose sanctions and more. It can authorize military actions, but this would not solve the underlying problems. The Council might be tempted to become involved in the area of prevention.

The Charter has purposely designed several institutions to tackle successive phases of conflict. I can cite several organizations within the United Nations family that are well armed in the area of conflict prevention. The United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime have been tirelessly working to promote good governance in many developing countries. They can contribute enormously to the maintenance of peace and security. They can also work in raising the awareness of relevant stakeholders in the developed countries about the impact of their actions and policies in fuelling violent conflict. Moreover, the Peacebuilding Commission can also address issues related to post-conflict situations. Hence, the United Nations is not lacking in the area of proper tools to address the many faces and stages of armed conflict.

In conclusion, my delegation would suggest that the Security Council and the General Assembly discuss ways and means of jointly organizing an international conference on this important issue. Such a conference organized by these two vital bodies would send a clear and unambiguous signal of the commitment of the two bodies to address this issue in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.

**Statement at 5979th meeting, Tuesday, 23 September 2008, 3:00 p.m.
(Maintenance of international peace and security)**

Mr. President, at the outset I wish to commend you for organizing today's important debate. I am sure that this meeting, under your able guidance, will be fruitful.

We live in a world torn by conflict. Conflicts are raging in the Middle East, in Afghanistan, in the Americas and in Central Europe, and they will never come to an end if dialogue does not take the place of violence. But dialogue is not easy to bring about between active combatants. There has to be someone trusted by everyone involved to bring about and guide the dialogue: a mediator who must have the skill to guide the process to a just and comprehensive conclusion that is acceptable to all concerned. Mediation as a process and as an art is therefore of immense value to the long-term survival of humankind.

Let me now speak of Indonesia's experience in mediation. In the early to mid-1990s, for three years, I had the personal privilege of chairing the mixed committee that conducted the bulk of negotiations between the Government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front. The process led to the signing in 1996 of a final peace agreement that ended two decades of a separatist rebellion in the southern Philippines.

Earlier, in the late 1980s, Indonesia launched a process towards the peaceful solution of a decades-long civil war in Cambodia. The process began with a series of informal meetings in Jakarta in which the warring factions participated. It later involved the United Nations as well as 19 nations, and led to the peace agreement signed in Paris in October 1991, and eventually to the rebirth of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

In the early 1990s, Indonesia launched a series of annual informal workshops on managing potential conflict in the South China Sea. There was a danger then that rival and overlapping claims to all or parts of the South China Sea could lead to armed conflict. Hence, Indonesia invited workshop participants from all the claimant States,

and the informal process led to joint undertakings that served as confidence-building measures. Since then China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have adopted a declaration on the conduct of parties in the South China Sea, and the area in general has become much more stable.

Much was achieved in these processes largely because Indonesia, as a non-claimant State, was trusted by all sides. We had only one clear agenda, and that was to ensure for ourselves and for our neighbours a more peaceful environment.

Apart from the fact that we earned the trust of the parties involved, it helped that the process we mediated began with considerable informality and that it was often conducted away from the limelight of the mass media.

The experience of Indonesia in mediation cannot compare with the vast experience of the United Nations and its many special representatives, special envoys and eminent persons. Supported by a mediation unit, the United Nations can look forward to many more achievements in the service of peace. Properly funded and with the endorsement of Member States, the unit could also enlarge the capacity of the United Nations to detect potential conflicts and prevent their outbreak. The United Nations and regional organizations could team up in mediation efforts. The United Nations has the resources and the experience; regional organizations have intimate knowledge of the socio-political terrain. That combination could be very powerful. We in ASEAN are ready for such a partnership with the United Nations. As we form an ASEAN Community, all ASEAN members are committed to the peaceful resolution of dispute and conflict, including through the use of mediation.

Indonesia is not only committed; it is also a passionate advocate of mediation, for we too have reaped the benefits of successful mediation. There is peace today in our Aceh province because of successful mediation by the Helsinki-based Crisis Management Initiative. Thus, we have learned our lessons in mediation very well. Others in our region and beyond have shown interest in drawing upon those experiences.

**Statement at 6017th meeting, Wednesday, 19 November 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Maintenance of international peace and security)**

Let me first of all join previous speakers in thanking the delegation of Costa Rica for convening this open debate and in welcoming you, Mr. President, as you personally chair this very important high-level debate. We should also like to warmly acknowledge the participation of His Excellency Mr. Samuel Lewis-Navarro, Vice-President and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Panama.

The issue of collective security and disarmament continues to be one of the most critical and enduring issues on the agenda of the United Nations. At a time when the world needs precious resources for development, there is no doubting the need to reduce, and eventually eliminate, nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, as well as to restrain the vast military expenditures on conventional arms. This is even more urgent when considered in the light of the need to address several global economic and social crises

and achieve the Millennium Development Goals and other development goals. Military spending and the insecurity caused by proliferation emerge clearly as challenging hurdles to the implementation of our multilateral objectives.

The United Nations and its bodies have been seized of this issue for a long time. Numerous decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly have long been devoted to disarmament. Yet, large stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction still threaten our existence. On top of the insecurity that this has caused, countries continue to increase military spending and invest in even more armaments in the quest for a higher level of security. Resources that ought to be invested in peace and development are thrown into this effort, which is fuelled by the fear that by disarming or reducing armaments they would compromise their security. A way must be found to end this trend.

Indonesia has been among the countries that seek to break that vicious cycle by consistently supporting the objective of regulating arms, and of disarmament, particularly as regards weapons of mass destruction. It is our firm belief that reduction in armaments and the total elimination of weapons of mass destruction would create a stable atmosphere and the confidence to further increase the level of security.

In the face of stagnation in the efforts towards disarmament and the regulation of armaments – most conspicuously the inability of the Conference on Disarmament to move forward with its work for over a decade now – and the continuing increase in global military expenditure, we think this is an opportune time for the Security Council to make a contribution to the effort to find a solution.

We, therefore, encourage the Council to play its proper role, in cooperation with the General Assembly and other relevant bodies. However, in doing so, we would like to emphasize that the Council should not act as a legislative body. Whatever plan is formulated by the Council should be consistent with Article 26 of the United Nations Charter, be submitted to Member States for their consideration.

We believe that, as a complement to multilateral arrangements, a regional approach to collective security and disarmament may contribute to enhancing efforts towards arms reduction and confidence-building measures. On the model of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Security Community, regional security would be based on sharing norms and rules of good conduct in inter-State relations, effective conflict resolution and prevention mechanisms and post-conflict peacebuilding activities. It would also promote political development, which would reinforce political stability. The shaping and sharing of norms in ASEAN is also crucial to building peace in the wider Asia-Pacific region. The Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia is a code of conduct for relations between ASEAN and external Powers. Signatories and acceding States renounce the use of force and bind themselves to peaceful settlement of disputes in the region, serving as a model for other regions. The South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone is a further ASEAN contribution to the non-proliferation and disarmament agenda.

Indonesia advocates a world in which financial and other resources now being squandered on the acquisition, development and

maintenance of armaments are allocated to pressing humanitarian and development needs, both by countries that manufacture and produce arms and by those who trade in or purchase them.

We would therefore appreciate a more active role by the Security Council on the issue of reduction and regulation of armaments, and disarmament, like that of other forums. But, more important, regardless of the forum, we call for political will among all Member States to recognize this issue for its unusual win-win potential: to strengthen international peace and security while also liberating immense resources worldwide that can be used to guarantee development and general human advancement.

5. Non-proliferation

**Statement at 5635th meeting, Friday, 23 February 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction)**

At the outset, on behalf of my delegation, I would like to extend our appreciation to you, Mr. President, for convening this open debate. My delegation also appreciates the presence of Mr. Tanaka, Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, as well as that of the high-level representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the World Customs Organization.

It is a fact the threat of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery is very real. That threat is magnified by the fact that WMD could fall into the hands of non-State actors, including terrorist groups. The continued existence of such weapons could contribute to the illicit acquisition of, and trafficking in, WMD.

The adoption of resolution 1540 (2004) took place against the backdrop of the fact that previous WMD treaty regimes lacked universality and had been designed to deal only with State entities. They were therefore seen by some as ineffective in tackling the challenge posed by non-State actors. The mission of resolution 1540 (2004) was therefore to address that gap. As reflected its paragraphs 5 and 8, resolution 1540 (2004) was intended only to complement and reinforce, rather than replace or subvert, multilaterally negotiated treaties.

We are reminded that, during the process of the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004), concerns were expressed that the Security Council had taken on a legislative role through which it dictated domestic law to Member States and enforced non-proliferation obligations outside the traditional multilateral negotiating process. We must therefore work towards establishing a multilaterally negotiated international legal instrument that will permanently address the gap being temporarily filled by the resolution.

One of the key challenges before us pertains to the ability of Member States to fulfil the central provisions of the resolution, for which national legislation may need to be enacted and enforcement measures put in place. For the majority of States, a certain degree of technical and legal expertise is also required, as is capacity in general. With reference to that point, it must also be borne in mind that a

State's capacity to meet its obligations is not just a matter of overall State capability, but also one of national priority. For almost three years, the focus of the Committee has mainly been on encouraging the reporting requirement. While noting that reporting is indeed important, as it provides a baseline for analysis, it is not the objective of the resolution. The key point is the implementation of the provisions of the resolution.

For developing countries with limited resources and many other equally pressing priorities, the increasing burden of reporting in its various forms can be overwhelming. It is therefore timely for the Committee to focus more on the implementation phase. Cooperation between the Council and its Committee with specialized international organizations should be framed within the context of assisting States to build their capacity to implement their obligations in a sustainable manner.

The problems associated with implementation lie at the national level. In most cases, those problems derive from technical difficulties faced by Member States. The Committee should therefore focus on programmes that enhance the national capabilities of such countries, in collaboration with existing international organizations in the field of the prohibition of WMD.

The full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) is a long-term objective and an ongoing process. It will require continuous efforts, patience, dialogue, cooperation and assistance. As a result, it is our belief that sustained international cooperation is essential to achieve the objectives and purposes of resolution 1540 (2004).

The Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), which is tasked with ensuring the implementation of the resolution, is well placed to mobilize and coordinate an effective non-proliferation effort by garnering the support and assistance of various specialized international organizations in the execution of its mandate. While there are currently no substantive partnerships between those organizations and the Committee, this possibility could be explored in the future.

In that regard, the Security Council and the Committee should optimize the comparative advantages of specialized international organizations. That partnership should strengthen practical cooperation, avoid duplication, promote cost effectiveness, strengthen synergy of efforts and increase the effective use of resources and expertise.

In the areas of nuclear weapons, chemical weapons and their related materials, the Committee should continue its cooperation with the secretariats of the IAEA and the OPCW. Both organizations have, within their respective fields and mandates, programmes for State capacity-building that are directly relevant to resolution 1540 (2004). For instance, they maintain records of the status of the national implementation measures of States parties to their respective regimes. It is regrettable, however, that in the area of the control of dangerous biological agents we do not have similar organizations, since there is not yet agreement on a verification regime for the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC).

For our part, in implementing obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), Indonesia continues to strengthen its national implementation measures, including its national legislation and enhanced cooperation,

both bilateral and multilateral. We are also working closely with international organizations such as the IAEA and the OPCW. Together with the OPCW, Indonesia last year held meetings of national authorities in Asia. Bilaterally, Indonesia and the OPCW have undertaken a series of training exercises on our emergency response system in the event of the intentional or accidental release of dangerous chemical agents. In addition, Indonesia continues to cooperate with the IAEA in the field of nuclear safety and security safeguards. In the absence of an international verification regime for the BWC, Indonesia and Australia have conducted annual regional workshops, with a view to strengthen regional cooperation and an exchange of best practices in implementing the provisions of BWC.

Finally, as we pursue the non-proliferation initiative, we should not lose sight of the question of disarmament. It is our conviction that, in the end, the only guarantee for eliminating the fear caused by the possible use or threat of use of WMD is their total elimination, because that is the only sure way of preventing non-State actors from acquiring them. We therefore reiterate our call on all States to work towards that fundamental goal.

**Statement at 5647th meeting, Saturday, 24 March 2007, 3:00 p.m.
(Non-proliferation)**

Indonesia is of the view that the purpose of the draft resolution is not to punish the Government or people of Iran, but to be a vehicle for persuading the Iranian Government to comply with previous resolutions of the Council and resolve outstanding issues with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). It must therefore be clear that the draft resolution is not a final, irrevocable position, but a reversible one.

The draft resolution provides for suspension of the implementation measure consequent upon two related conditions. Those involve Iran taking action to suspend its proliferation-sensitive nuclear activities, that action to be verified by the IAEA, a compliance that would then set the stage for negotiations that should be in good faith and aimed at reaching an early and mutually acceptable outcome. We understand that the parties are in total agreement to that approach. It is also of great significance that the measures specified in Security Council resolution 1737 (2006) would also be terminated following the determination that Iran has complied with its obligations.

Should Iran feel it to be necessary to move ahead towards a negotiated solution, the draft resolution provides that opportunity in accordance with the proposals made in June 2006, which are still on the table and serve as the basis for operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution. We therefore enjoin the Government of Iran to keep that door open, because through it lies a comprehensive negotiated agreement based on mutual respect and international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme.

The delegation of Indonesia notes that the draft resolution has accommodated some of the concerns of my Government and that several of our amendments were taken on board. Those include the reference to a Middle East free of weapons of mass destruction that firmly notes that we are concerned about the problem of non-

proliferation in general and in the region in particular. We believe that the establishment of zones free of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction is a critical measure towards strengthening global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. The establishment of such zones, including in the Middle East, will contribute to strengthening regional and global peace and security.

One paragraph concerns the need for all State parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) to comply fully with all of their obligations under the Treaty. Our understanding of the paragraph is that the three pillars of the NPT should be pursued in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner. We have consistently expressed our view that not only should we emphasize the non-proliferation obligations of non-nuclear-weapon States, but we must also require nuclear-weapon States to comply fully with their nuclear disarmament obligations under article VI of the Treaty. The article expressly states that

“Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.”

It is our conviction that in the end, the only guarantee for eliminating the fear caused by the possible use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is their total elimination. All concerned parties are called upon, in the interest of an early and mutually acceptable diplomatic outcome, to negotiate in good faith.

Finally, I wish to stress that the solution to the issue of Iran should in no way affect or change the inalienable rights of all parties to the NPT, including Iran, to develop and research the production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, without discrimination, in accordance with the Treaty. That remains an inalienable right of all State parties to the Treaty that should always be respected.

With that understanding, my delegation will vote in favour of the resolution.

**Statement at 5848th meeting, Monday, 3 March 2008, 12:45 p.m.
(Non-proliferation)**

I should like to begin by thanking the co-sponsors for their efforts in consulting with the Council's member States on the draft resolution before us today. Before I proceed, permit me to reiterate Indonesia's principled position with regard to the issue before the Council.

First, Indonesia underscores the imperative to find a peaceful solution to any question related to nuclear non-proliferation. Secondly, any solution must be guided by the need to protect the integrity of multilateral arrangements, particularly the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which is fundamentally based upon three main pillars, namely, non-proliferation, the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and nuclear disarmament. Finally, it is a matter of fact that a State's effort to exercise its inalienable right to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy borders on the proliferation aspect. In that regard, Indonesia has full confidence in the credibility, independence and efficiency of the International Atomic Energy

Agency (IAEA) as the sole competent authority for the verification of the respective safeguards obligations of Member States.

In determining the right course of action with regard to the issue under discussion, Indonesia has been guided by the important information contained in the latest report of the Director General of IAEA, issued on 22 February 2008, which revealed several key findings.

Indonesia appreciates Iran's efforts to show greater cooperation and, at the same time, more transparency to the Agency. The Agency has thus been able to continue to verify the non-diversion of declared nuclear material in Iran. In addition, the report stated that the Agency's knowledge about Iran's current declared nuclear programme has become clearer due to Iran's provision of information similar to which it had provided pursuant to the additional protocol. Furthermore, Iran has provided the Agency with access to declared nuclear material and has provided the required nuclear material accountancy reports in connection with declared nuclear material and activities.

We have carefully considered both the report and the draft resolution before the Council today. With regard to the outstanding issues, we note that the Agency considered that all remaining outstanding issues contained in the work plan, with the exception of one issue, have been resolved. The report stated that, contrary to the decisions of the Security Council, Iran has not suspended its enrichment-related activities and, in addition, has started the development of new-generation centrifuges and continued its construction of the IR-40 reactor and its operation of the heavy water production plant. For the remaining issue – that is, the alleged weaponization studies – the report of the IAEA clearly noted that the Agency has not detected the use of nuclear material. However, the report also stated that the Agency is not yet in a position to determine the full nature of Iran's nuclear programme. It implies, therefore, that some specific demands stipulated in resolutions 1737 (2006) and 1747 (2007) have not been met. However, it is important to note that notable progress has been made in resolving the outstanding issues between Iran and the IAEA, as demanded by those resolutions.

We have been keen to ensure that there is synergy and complementarity between the report and the IAEA's efforts generally, on the one hand, and the letter and spirit of the draft resolution, on the other. We cannot fail to note the well-calibrated nature of the report – recognizing important progress in its cooperation with the Agency as well as the facts of Iran's lack of compliance with Security Council resolutions. It depicts well the complexity and the mixed picture of the issue. It had been our expectation that the draft resolution would reflect those complex dynamics and mixed findings and not succumb to an overly one-dimensional characterization of where we are today.

We note that the additional sanctions in the present draft resolution have been described as being incremental, targeted at non-proliferation areas and reversible, and that the Council would suspend its implementation should Iran curtail all enrichment-related and reprocessing activities, including research and development, as verified by the IAEA.

However, Indonesia remains to be convinced of the efficacy of adopting additional sanctions at this juncture. Essentially, we are not convinced that more sanctions — however incremental, well-targeted and reversible — would move us forward in resolving the question of Iran's nuclear programme. Will they instead have a potential negative impact at a time when progress is being made? We wonder, therefore, whether imposing more sanctions at this juncture is the most sensible approach. We need to pose the question whether imposing more sanctions is the most sensible course of action to instil confidence and trust and engender cooperation between all the parties concerned. It is our belief that, ultimately, lack of confidence and trust lies at the heart of the matter. We must avoid more of the same.

It is our expectation that Iran will continue to engage actively with the Agency in order to build confidence about the scope and nature of its nuclear programme. Such a development is not without relevance to our deliberations today. After all, the Iran dossier was referred to the Council to encourage that country to resolve outstanding verification issues with the IAEA and to restore the international community's confidence in its nuclear programme. While yet to be completed, that has begun and is making progress.

The suspension of enrichment-related activities is an instrument. It is a means to an end. It is not, as we understand it, an end by itself, isolated from developments in Iran's cooperation with the IAEA. The IAEA-Iran work plan constitutes a platform to restore the confidence of the international community. Any interruption of that confidence-building process will only threaten to unravel the important gains that have been made.

The NPT guarantees the inalienable right of all States parties to develop, research, produce and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in accordance with the Treaty. Nonetheless, we are often trapped in a vicious cycle, as there is no guarantee given to non-nuclear States regarding the security of supply of nuclear technology and materials for peaceful purposes. They remain prone to suspicion in their attempts to exercise their rights.

In order to put an end to that cycle, it is imperative for all of us to move forward and in a more creative and constructive manner. We must revive and renew the initiative to establish a multilateral arrangement, as part and parcel of the NPT, to guarantee the security of supply of nuclear technology and materials, including highly enriched uranium. Such an arrangement would provide certainty, as well as assurances, to Iran, and eventually put an end to the existing suspicions — thereby removing any reason for anyone to question the peaceful nature of Iran's current enrichment process.

As a faithful State party to the NPT, Indonesia is always of the view that the three pillars of the NPT should be pursued in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner. We have consistently expressed our view that we should not only emphasize the non-proliferation obligations of non-nuclear-weapon States, but that we must also require nuclear-weapon States to comply fully with their nuclear disarmament obligations under article VI of the NPT, on which there has barely been any progress so far.

We are aware that resolution 1747 (2007) provides for the possibility of further appropriate measures in the event of Iranian non-compliance. There is, however, nothing automatic about such

measures. Further decisions will be needed — hence our deliberations today. Above all, it is important to recognize that the conditions prevailing today are different than those on the eve of the adoption of resolution 1747 (2007). The strategic goals of resolutions 1737 (2006) and 1747 (2007) are being achieved. Iran is cooperating with the IAEA. At this juncture, more sanctions are not the best course.

For those considerations and reasons, Indonesia will abstain on the draft resolution before us today.

6. Post-conflict Peacebuilding

**Statement at 5627th meeting, Wednesday, 31 January 2007, 3:30 p.m.
Post-conflict Peacebuilding**

We are grateful to you, Mr. President, for convening this important meeting on post-conflict peacebuilding. Indonesia associates itself with the statement to be made shortly by the representative of Jamaica on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The Peacebuilding Commission is truly a unique platform, in that it serves to bridge the current critical gap in the international post-conflict peacebuilding system. Although the Commission is still in its early stages, we recognize that the expectations are high. It is therefore the view of my delegation that this public debate should be intended as a forum for the exchange of views among the stakeholders in order to explore practical ways of strengthening the Commission and enabling it to perform its work in an effective and efficient manner.

Enhanced interaction and complementarity among various United Nations organs aimed at supporting the work of the Peacebuilding Commission would be beneficial. In that context, we look forward to the expected debate on the Commission in the General Assembly, which will provide important input on how to better assist the Commission in its tasks.

While the Peacebuilding Commission is expected to contribute to the advancement of global peace and stability, we are of the view that it can have a particular impact in its role as a coordinating body that leverages international and national expertise. An inclusive and well-coordinated approach would systematically synergize peacebuilding efforts at both the national and international levels.

It is our opinion that the work of the Commission would be more results-oriented if integrated peacebuilding strategies fully reflect the priorities of the countries concerned. Each integrated strategy needs to be broken down into manageable phases laying out a credible set of tasks and identifying the actors concerned. It should have a degree of flexibility in order to adapt to changes on the ground.

The priorities have to come from national Governments, and ownership of the post-conflict recovery process is paramount. We feel that a better coordinated, more coherent and well organized international support system, provided through the Peacebuilding Commission, would facilitate better access and response for the countries in need. Here, we would like to underline that the work of the Commission should not create a separate layer of complexity for existing processes and that the Commission should not try to

micromanage the activities being carried out in the countries concerned.

We must be careful, however, not to end up creating a donor-recipient culture in the Peacebuilding Commission. Due care must be exercised so that the donors to the Commission are not perceived as controlling it, because that would only draw unnecessary criticism towards the United Nations.

My delegation takes note that the resolutions establishing the Peacebuilding Commission do not clearly provide modalities for the involvement of regional and subregional actors. We therefore feel that there is also a need to provide practical tools and guidance for engaging regional and subregional actors in country-specific configurations.

The positive role of the relevant stakeholders is crucial to a successful transition from the post-conflict phase to the normal process of sustainable peace and development. Hence, we are pleased to see the participation of various important entities in this discussion. Their contribution is useful, not only because they provide the Council with additional ideas on how to support the work of the Peacebuilding Commission, but also because the work that they do on the ground for people ravaged by conflict is indeed very valuable and much appreciated.

My delegation is also of the view that civil society and non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, as well as the private sector, should play constructive roles in post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction. In the light of that, we would like to underline the need to formulate a modality enabling them to participate actively in peacebuilding activities.

We are particularly encouraged by the most recent country meetings on Burundi and Sierra Leone, which were more action-oriented. We look forward to the presentation in the near future of the work plans on both countries by the respective Chairs of those country meetings. The progress made on key elements contained in the Chairs' summaries needs to be evaluated through more frequent meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission.

Finally, my delegation would like to state that we need to strike a balance between the work of the Organizational Committee and the country-specific configurations, as success in one aids the other. A properly empowered and robust Committee would serve to strengthen the work of the Commission.

**Statement at 5761st meeting, Wednesday, 17 October 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Post-conflict peacebuilding)**

Let me first express our gratitude to you, Mr. President, for convening this important debate on the first report of the Peacebuilding Commission (S/2007/458). We would also like to thank the Peacebuilding Commission for the presentation of its report, as well as its Chairperson, Ambassador Yukio Takasu of Japan for his remarks.

Having been involved in the deliberations on the establishment of the Peacebuilding Commission, and as a member of the Commission, Indonesia is pleased to see the Commission and the associated Peacebuilding Fund embark upon the fulfilment of their mandates in

the first year. It has not been easy for the Commission to address the issues of its direction and procedures and at the same time take up the demanding cases of Burundi and Sierra Leone. But it is obvious from the report that the Commission has worked hard in trying to fill the gap in the international post-conflict architecture, which was highlighted in the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

At this juncture, my delegation would like to focus on some of the lessons learned in the past year and to explore practical ways and means by which the Council, pursuant to its role, could assist the Commission to fulfil its goals laid out in resolution 1645 (2005).

First, the peacebuilding architecture of the United Nations is now in place. As the conclusion of the report of the Peacebuilding Commission pertinently states, the biggest remaining challenge is how to concretely implement peacebuilding strategies in the field. The fine-tuning efforts by the peacebuilding system in New York should have an impact on the ground that should be felt directly by the community concerned. Maximum effects will be achieved if the Peacebuilding Commission focuses on being practical and results-oriented.

Secondly, the maximum effect in the field can be fulfilled if firm support is offered by all the principal organs of the United Nations, the agencies of the United Nations system and the non-United Nations institutions concerned. Their backing will bolster the efforts of the Peacebuilding Commission and allow the Commission to give its undivided attention to the profound post-conflict issues before it.

As was pointed out last week by some delegations, including my own, during the General Assembly's debate on the reports of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund, we expect the Commission's Organizational Committee to take up specific thematic issues, apart from considering them under the country-specific format.

Thirdly, the Commission has rightly emphasized the importance of addressing good governance, the rule of law, security sector reform, the fight against corruption and human rights for all – the necessary ingredients for the formation of a pluralistic and tolerant society. But the nexus between peace and development is paramount, and it also needs to be clearly incorporated in the outcomes of the Peacebuilding Commission. Lasting peace cannot be achieved in the absence of economic development and an improvement in State capacity. Paying equal attention to the issues of security, democracy and development is key to nurturing a strong pluralistic society.

Fourthly, national ownership is fundamental, but it will emerge only when the post-conflict priorities of a Government are duly respected and become the blueprint for the relevant national and international actors. The Peacebuilding Commission needs to maintain this as its core principle and practice it.

Fifth, in the second year, we expect that the Organizational Committee will expeditiously agree on the as-yet unsettled issues and enhance focus on the substantive factors. It is our view that the Organizational Committee should be the focal point of all the Commission's activities. For its part, the Commission should avoid the misconception that there is a different Commission for each country case and for which there are different country-specific configurations.

Sixth, the Council should continue to work with the Peacebuilding Commission in developing a well-functioning peacebuilding architecture of which the Commission is at the core, complementary with the role and mandates of the Council. Indonesia is aware that some members of the Council have emphasized previously that the Peacebuilding Commission is by nature simply an advisory body of the Council. While recognizing the limited nature of the Commission, the Council should give it more space to innovatively develop its international standing and receive needed international media and public attention. Moreover, the Council should encourage the Commission to reach out and explore engagement with such non-traditional partners as the corporate sector.

As its last point, my delegation would like to touch upon the recent discussions in the Council on how to put new countries on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission. That implies that the Council should start considering a sort of internal referral mechanism. With a view to having a flexible mechanism, there are some approaches that could be carefully considered when the Council draws up its internal mechanism.

The whole process should start from the candidate country's demonstrated willingness to be included on the Peacebuilding Commission's agenda. The Council can invite the candidate country to have a prior consultation with the Council.

We recognize that it is a discretionary power of the Council to make final referral; yet, in order to have a smooth process of referral, the Chairman of the Commission should be kept informed and consulted by the Council. From that preliminary exchange with the Commission, the Council will then be in a better position to give its opinion on the capacity and ability of the Commission to handle a new country. The Council should be convinced that, by referring the country to the Commission's agenda, the Commission could give added value in peace consolidation. The Council may indicate specific challenges posed by the candidate country. Those specific challenges should be drawn up in close coordination with the country concerned and be based on the principle of national ownership.

In closing, allow me to reiterate Indonesia's commitment to the cause of the Peacebuilding Commission. We will continue to engage with others towards our aim of making the outcomes of the Commission tangible.

**Statement at 5895th meeting, Tuesday, 20 May 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Post-conflict peacebuilding)**

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. President, for convening this thematic debate. Let me assure you of our utmost support for your stewardship in ensuring a productive outcome to this debate. I should also like to extend to you the personal greetings of Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda. I very much enjoyed your conversation with him on Myanmar a few days ago.

As did the Minister of Defence of South Africa, my delegation would also like to associate itself with the statement to be made later by the representative of Jamaica, who will speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Since its introduction, in 1992, the concept of post-conflict peacebuilding has evolved and entered into the mainstream of various peace initiatives. It is now an integral part of the efforts by the international community to bring durable peace to countries emerging from conflict. In a world where wars, famine and destruction are acutely prevalent, post-conflict peacebuilding is a commendable effort that deserves our utmost support. Many countries that are on the agenda of the Security Council have benefited from such efforts. Post-conflict peacebuilding has been instrumental in ensuring that peace becomes sustainable in those countries.

Moreover, with the increasing significance of post-conflict peacebuilding efforts, there are currently high expectations to facilitate the expeditious graduation of current United Nations peacekeeping operations towards the post-conflict peacebuilding phase. That is an important phase not only for the country concerned but also for the Council, so that it can focus its work on more pressing issues, such as solving conflict and building peace in the Middle East, where violence long ago became a daily occurrence. It is indeed a tragedy that indiscriminate killings continue unabated in that part of the world.

While we underline the importance of post-conflict peacebuilding, we are nevertheless of the view that such an effort cannot be perpetual. It must have its exit and it must eventually strengthen the independence and self-reliance of countries where post-conflict peacebuilding missions are deployed. With regard to the role of countries that are recipients of post-conflict peacebuilding efforts, my delegation attaches primary importance to national leadership and ownership of endeavours. They must actively be involved in every step of the post-conflict peacebuilding process. Since post-conflict peacebuilding is a multifaceted process, we believe that it needs to be guided by a hierarchy of priorities established in response to the specific needs and political dynamics in the given recipient countries.

Post-conflict peacebuilding plays a critical role in guiding countries in the fragile post-conflict phase out of an environment of conflict and into a more stable state. While its significance cannot be questioned, much remains to be done in order to improve its effectiveness. Rapid deployment is as important with regard to post-conflict peacebuilding as it is in peacekeeping operations.

The United Nations has deployed various peacekeeping operations with large numbers of troops in different countries with some degree of success. As indicated by the Secretary-General in his remarks, that has to be supported by civilian experts, including development specialists, judges, administrators and other relevant professionals. As the United Nations is currently over-stretched in terms of personnel available for peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions, enhancing and broadening the scope of international cooperation becomes critical. However, the challenge to international collaboration is how to provide a sizeable, swift and coordinated response to the demands of post-conflict peacebuilding.

That brings me to the issue of funding, which is another critical element for successful post-conflict peacebuilding. All funding avenues must be explored and utilized. As helpful as they are, multi-donor trust funds cannot be the foundation for normal socio-economic activity, which requires self-sustaining avenues. The trap of debt and

overly tight fiscal policies imposed by international institutions should also be avoided. Therefore, more efforts can and should be made to engage non-governmental resources and the private sector to fill the gaps.

We would like to underscore the central role of the Peacebuilding Commission with regard to post-conflict peacebuilding within the United Nations system. Now in its third year, the Peacebuilding Commission is beginning to find its niche and demonstrate its added value. It has been able to create linkages between political/security and financial/development actors and has maintained medium-term political attention on countries emerging from conflict.

Again, as has been eloquently explained by previous speakers, given the existence of so many competing institutions and resources, coordination is a major issue to be dealt with. We recognize the role that the Security Council can play in enhancing adequate coordination and division of labour at the level of United Nations organs. In our view, the Council can ensure the operational relevance of the advice of the Peacebuilding Commission, which remains essential for countries on the agenda of both bodies and for resolving the security-related aspects of peacebuilding.

Equally essential is the synergy between the Peacebuilding Commission, the General Assembly – including the Fifth Committee and the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations – and the Economic and Social Council. It is particularly important to bridge the issues of peacebuilding, political stability, socio-economic recovery and humanitarian concerns, which could lay the foundations for longer-term development activities.

As stated by the Secretary-General in his remarks today, his Special Representatives play important roles in peace processes. They can play a coordinating role working with all relevant players in the overall efforts of the United Nations in a given country. They can also become focal points, both from a negotiation and mediation standpoint as well as from the administrative, financial and logistical ones.

Finally, my delegation would like to reaffirm our support for international efforts at post-conflict peacebuilding. We also reiterate our emphasis on the central role of the Peacebuilding Commission in providing the United Nations with policy guidance and strategies in its post-conflict peacebuilding activities.

**Statement at 5997th meeting, Tuesday, 21 October 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Post-conflict peacebuilding)**

Allow me to first express our appreciation to you, Mr. President, for convening this debate on the report of the Peacebuilding Commission and to thank the Commission for its second annual report. We would also like to thank Ambassador Yukio Takasu of Japan for his remarks and to commend the work of the Peacebuilding Commission, the present and previous Chairs of the four country configurations and the Working Group on Lessons Learned.

In its presidential statement S/PRST/2008/16 of 20 May 2008, the Security Council expressed its intention to support the peacebuilding efforts in countries emerging from conflict. We believe that peacebuilding support should be provided to those countries at an

early stage, especially when the Council creates or renews the mandates of United Nations-led missions through its decisions and resolutions. That very important step could ensure that peacebuilding support is incorporated in a United Nations mission.

We hold the view that the more the notion of peacebuilding support is meaningfully reflected in the mandates of United Nations peacekeeping and other United Nations political missions, the greater is the chance for realizing the priority areas of peace consolidation as stipulated in the integrated peacebuilding strategies. The key to that exercise is close consultations with the receiving country, potential contributors and the Secretariat. The Security Council is also an appropriate forum for providing guidance on the political and security aspects of peacebuilding activities.

Yet the challenge is how those aspects could be effectively linked with the social, economic and development components of peacebuilding efforts, as envisioned by other United Nations bodies. My delegation therefore believes that the Commission can play a very important role as a nexus for linking the political and security components taken up at the Council with the social, humanitarian and economic aspects that the Economic and Social Council focuses on.

At the strategic level, that approach can be developed with the Commission's active and substantive engagement with other principal United Nations organs, Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant agencies. At the operational level, it can be derived through the regular interface of the country configurations with the pertinent United Nations funds, programmes and country teams. That will lead to better coherence and integration of the cause of and results in the United Nations system.

The issue of coordination remains critical, given the existence of so many institutions and resources. By giving good consideration to how coordination within the United Nations and between it and other actors might take place, we will more effectively utilize those resources and have a more efficient process. The United Nations itself should continue to play a leading role in the field in coordinating international efforts in post-conflict situations.

For its part, the Security Council, as part of the United Nations system, could play an important role in enhancing adequate coordination and division of labour at the level of United Nations organs. It can ensure the operational relevance of Peacebuilding Commission advice, which remains essential for countries on the agenda of both organs and in resolving the security-related aspects of peacebuilding. The finest synergy between the two organs would serve to clarify and define a seamless transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding.

Close cooperation between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Security Council should also continue to be nurtured. That is crucial because it is the Council that draws up referral letters to the Commission. That collaboration also forms a basis for the Commission to identify peace challenges, risks and priorities in a particular post-conflict country. Further collaboration between the Commission and the Council should also be encouraged in the information-sharing activities that relate to peacebuilding.

The information that the Peacebuilding Commission gathers and that the Security Council receives must be mutually complementary

and merged to form a basis for sound decisions with regard to peacebuilding activities. To narrow any gap, there should be more synergy and substantial communication between the Council and the Commission.

Equally essential is the synergy between the Peacebuilding Commission, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. Of particular importance is bridging peacebuilding and political stability, socio-economic recovery and humanitarian issues, which would lay the foundation for longer-term development activities. In that regard, as stipulated in the Council's presidential statement S/PRST/2007/42 of 6 November 2007, the Peacebuilding Commission should continue to serve as a forum for coordination between the United Nations system and regional and subregional organizations in the area of post-conflict situations.

My delegation recognizes that the Peacebuilding Commission is steadily leaving its infancy. Its work, however, is not particularly well known to wider audiences, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other civil society groups, whose role in and contribution to peacebuilding efforts have been recognized by the Council. As the co-creator of the Peacebuilding Commission, the Security Council should therefore help in boosting public awareness and visibility of the Commission's work by featuring its processes and outcomes in its various engagements.

Finally, allow me to reiterate that Indonesia, for its part, will continue to support and contribute to the efforts for an integrated and coherent approach in peacebuilding based on the dimensions of security, democracy and development, and to raise awareness of those matters nationally and regionally.

7. Protection of civilians in armed conflict

**Statement at 5703rd meeting, Friday, 22 June 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Protection of civilians in armed conflict)**

First of all, let me join other speakers in thanking Under-Secretary-General Holmes for his briefing.

Civilians have always been victims of warfare, throughout the history of humankind. Today, the picture remains gloomy. Conflicts in Africa, the Middle East, the Balkans and other zones of war have caused a considerable number of civilian casualties. We therefore believe that the protection of civilians in armed conflict is an urgent matter. We also believe that existing measures to protect civilians must be strengthened and that new measures must be sought.

We continue to have high regard for legal measures in promoting the protection of civilians in armed conflict. In particular, we attach great significance to the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1977 Additional Protocols.

As far as complying with international humanitarian law is concerned, my delegation underlines that armed State actors and armed non-State actors have equal responsibility in the protection of civilians and in adherence to the law. Compliance with humanitarian and human rights law by armed State actors can in general be easily monitored through various existing modalities. Challenges appear

when it comes to non-State armed groups. My delegation recognizes the limits of State-centric international instruments in addressing the issue of protection vis-à-vis those groups. Accordingly, my delegation stresses the need for alternative measures to hold non-State combatants accountable when they violate human rights and humanitarian norms. In this regard, we welcome the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian and human rights agencies in promoting awareness of the instruments among non-State combatants and in ensuring that they obey those instruments. We believe that the United Nations could also contribute to that endeavour.

When conflict is taking place, civilians have also become displaced. Under such circumstances, they are generally deprived of their basic rights, including the right to food. Many die of disease or hunger. In that regard, we underline the critical importance of humanitarian assistance and continue to appreciate the value of humanitarianism in the protection of civilians in armed conflict. We continue to support the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian agencies. We commend donor countries for their contributions and the countries receiving refugees for their generosity.

Indonesia is concerned over frequent incidents where humanitarian aid convoys are ambushed or where access to humanitarian assistance is restricted so that displaced civilians are out of reach. In our view, this tactic will only prolong the anguish of displaced civilians; thus, we cannot let it happen.

As regards conflict-induced displacement, my delegation has devoted particular attention to the needs of vulnerable groups, especially children and women. We stress that all parties to a conflict should make arrangements to meet the protection and assistance requirements of children and women and to ensure the unhindered delivery of basic necessary services.

We are also very concerned about the fact that humanitarian workers who provide the civilians with humanitarian assistance have increasingly become targets during armed conflict. This act is extremely deplorable, knowing that the workers went because they wanted to help and because they have ambition and wanted to mitigate human suffering.

Before I conclude, let me say a few words about the threat to civilians posed by landmines and other munitions. Civilians, including farmers and school children, in over sixty countries remain under the threat of anti-personnel landmines. The affected countries bear a costly burden and their citizens have to deal with potential death or injury every time they take a step.

We therefore welcome United Nations mine action activities carried out in collaboration with governments and other international organizations. We underline the importance of demining, victim assistance, mine-risk education and destruction of stockpiled landmines as part of mine action. We also urge countries that hold information about the sites of mines and other munitions they deployed during a war to share that information, especially with the United Nations, as a basis for further action.

My delegation holds the view that protection of civilians in armed conflict is multifaceted and thus requires comprehensive measures,

including both legal and humanitarian measures. The political will of all parties concerned is essential in the implementation of those measures.

As a final point, we would like to reiterate that while protection of civilians in armed conflict should be strengthened, the best protection is the prevention of armed conflict itself. It is the role that the Security Council could play in promoting the prevention of conflict and in the maintenance of international peace and security.

**Statement at 5781st meeting, Tuesday, 20 November 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Protection of civilians in armed conflict)**

Let me join others in thanking the Secretary-General for his statement and his written report (S/2007/643). I should also like to preface our statement by expressing appreciation to Mr. John Holmes, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, for his statement.

Every year, thousands of civilians fall victim to situations of armed conflict. Their plight should be a concern for all of us. It is our shared responsibility to alleviate the suffering of victims wherever it occurs. A humanitarian crisis caused by armed conflict can be broadcast online in a matter of seconds. That can be attributed in no small part to the role of the media in projecting and amplifying such strong images into our private spheres. However, it often takes more time and further effort before needed assistance can be funnelled in time and in line with the needs of civilians in such precarious circumstances. Thus, as the Council, we should offer guidance on both ways in which assistance can be provided to victims and steps to be taken against those who deliberately disregard human life and to discourage such actions in the first place. In addressing such actions, the Council would act in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Charter and international law.

Our efforts to stabilize any particular conflict situation are focused on political dialogue, negotiations and reconciliation processes. However, the plight of victims does not always receive full attention. Most often, civilians are the victims and the bystanders in war. As non-combatants, they do not choose to engage in the conflict taking place around them. While any loss of life in a war is regrettable, formal and informal laws of war have, throughout time, been intended to protect civilians. We believe that those who are innocent should be protected by the international community and that the perpetrators of illegal acts should be brought to justice.

The report of the Secretary-General (S/2007/643) made a valuable contribution by identifying various means of assisting victims of armed conflict. It also highlighted the plight of victims in various armed conflict situations. Indeed, it assisted us by presenting a well-rounded picture of the situation.

The impact of war on civilians goes far beyond targeting them as combatants; it includes the auxiliary effects of war, including physical displacement, disease, hunger and the wreckage and death wrought by the placement of anti-personnel landmines on civilian territory. Efforts to combat those ills and to ensure respect for basic human rights can include a range of measures, including the timely delivery of food and medical support, rehabilitation and advocacy to victims.

We consider all acts against relief workers, humanitarian aid convoys and others engaged in providing humanitarian assistance to the population to counter the effects of war to be deplorable. The deliberate targeting of such individuals is a crime, and we invoke the relevant international laws, including the 1994 Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel and its Optional Protocol, for that purpose.

In the twenty-first century, the number of civilian deaths in wartime has been growing, and the dynamics are complicated by the role of non-State actors. Civilians are deliberately targeted in many conflicts, which runs counter to international norms on the laws of war and human rights and draws condemnation from the international community. Such practices must be stopped.

Non-State actors pose additional problems, because they are difficult to identify and apprehend. Non-State armed groups pose special challenges for penalty and law enforcement. In the case of non-State actors such as terrorist groups, there should be equal protection for civilians through penalties on individuals through enforcement of international law, in addition to the punishment that they receive for their activities as a group. My delegation condemns civilian casualties brought about by any terrorist act.

Let me reiterate that the protection of civilians is a universal and timeless issue. Generation after generation has envisaged effective measures to protect civilians from the looming danger of armed conflicts. Our current discussion is part of that long and unbroken chain of efforts. Our effort requires togetherness; no one can claim this issue alone. This is an issue of humanity that binds us together, but it can be unravelled by our own narrow political objectives. We should avoid that trap, as well as the trap of engaging in a "blame game". We hope that by bringing this issue to the attention of the Council today, we will be able to reinvigorate it and to encourage the quest for new solutions to address it or to strengthen the existing mechanism.

The Secretary-General's report contained an array of recommendations aimed at furthering our common efforts that can contribute to the overall efforts of the United Nations system, international stakeholders and national Governments to address this pertinent issue. We believe that while the best protection from armed conflict is found in its prevention, in the absence of peace we must remain vigilant as to its impacts on the civilian population and must do our best to minimize human suffering and deaths.

Finally, our efforts should be focused on maintaining the current momentum by strengthening the United Nations system, working together with Member States and other stakeholders in a coordinated, coherent, comprehensive and cooperative manner. What is required is an approach that includes development and humanitarian dimensions, undergirded by political will on the part of States to ensure that civilians are protected in times of war.

**Statement at 5898th meeting, Tuesday, 27 May 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Protection of civilians in armed conflict)**

I would like to preface our statement by expressing appreciation to the Under-Secretary-General, Mr. John Holmes, for his statement

earlier and of course to you, Mr. President, for convening our deliberations this morning.

Every day, news of civilians falling victim to armed conflict feeds the discussion in the Council. In many instances, the intensity of violence is shocking. However, the most tragic situation is when we are immune to the suffering of civilians, when we fail to cope with it or when we consciously decide to ignore it. The Council has an imperative duty to stand for those who are defenceless and in need of protection in times of conflict. Today's meeting will serve to further address the issues surrounding the protection of civilians in a comprehensive and resolute manner.

It is our shared responsibility to alleviate the suffering of victims wherever and whenever it occurs. The specific needs and protection of women and children need to be particularly highlighted.

The safety and security of civilians must be prioritized when security matters are addressed through military measures or military operations. Parties engaged in situations of armed conflict must respect the letter and the spirit of international humanitarian law. Those universal instruments are one of the foundations of the international system.

However, that alone is insufficient. A comprehensive perspective on this issue entails the relevance of issues of gender and cultural diversity as well, along with an approach that is sensitive to the needs of local populations. All peacekeeping and military operations must be exceptionally mindful of local beliefs, traditions and values. Lack of respect can trigger violence and serious repercussions, which can undo peace processes or operations.

Ending the cycle of violence on the ground is key to the full achievement of any peace process. That can be attained only when all parties concerned on the ground exercise restraint and refrain from any actions that could undermine those efforts. Thus, we are particularly concerned over the continued civilian casualties among Palestinians, including children and women, caused by the indiscriminate and excessive use of force in Israeli military operations in the Gaza Strip. That must immediately come to an end.

We cannot fail to stress the importance of a total ban on cluster munitions and landmines. Those indiscriminate weapons not only have a gruesome impact on the victims; beyond their immediate impact, they damage the environment and the economy of a region. We witness this in many parts of the Middle East and other regions, where the widespread use of cluster munitions has turned arable land into a wasteland. Civilians, including farmers and schoolchildren in over 60 countries, remain under the threat of those inhumane weapons. The affected countries bear a costly burden, and their citizens have to deal with potential death or injury every time they take a step. Indonesia therefore underlines the paramount importance of a total ban of those heinous types of munitions.

With regard to anti-personnel landmines, we welcome the mine action activities of the United Nations, in collaboration with Governments and other international organizations. We underline the importance of mine clearance, victim assistance, mine-risk education and the destruction of stockpiled landmines as part of mine action. We urge countries that hold information about the sites of the mines and other munitions they deployed during a war to share that

information, especially with the United Nations, as a basis for further action.

With the growing complexity and intricacy of world matters, the United Nations is surely not in position to tackle all of the issues related to the protection of civilians. Regional organizations have an important role to play in the protection of civilians. It is important to remember that the best preventive medicine for war is fruitful negotiation and dialogue, which is often achieved by inviting the participation of regionally relevant players.

In addition, we are witnessing the increasing role of non-State actors in addressing the plight of civilians in armed conflict situations. We have on many occasions noted with appreciation the role of non-governmental organizations and other civil society organizations.

In that regard, we believe that private aid is also a critical component of a solution to armed conflict and of the attenuation of the suffering of civilians. This can originate from private organizations or philanthropic organizations which have gathered the funds available to those in need. In many cases, they also have the necessary expertise in various fields. That, I believe, would further strengthen our global efforts.

Humanitarian assistance is essential to addressing the plight of civilians in armed conflict. It is therefore very deplorable that irresponsible acts taken against relief workers, humanitarian aid convoys and others engaged in humanitarian assistance to shield the population from the effects of war continue to happen. The deliberate targeting of those individuals is a crime, and we should invoke the relevant international laws, including the 1994 Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel and its Optional Protocol, for that purpose.

Finally, let me reiterate that our efforts should be focused on maintaining momentum by strengthening the efforts of the United Nations system, Member States and other stakeholders working as a whole in a coordinated, coherent, comprehensive and cooperative manner. An approach that includes development and humanitarian dimensions is required and should be supported by the political will of States to ensure that civilians are protected in times of war and in times of peace.

8. Security Council mission

**Statement at 5801st meeting, Thursday, 13 December 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Security Council mission)**

Let me first express my delegation's appreciation to you, Mr. President, for the initiative of holding this timely debate on the report of the Security Council mission to Timor-Leste (S/2007/711).

We wish to commend the Security Council delegation, under the leadership of Ambassador Dumisani Kumalo of South Africa, for having successfully discharged its mandate in accordance with its terms of reference. We are pleased, in particular, that the visit to the country was overwhelmingly perceived as reaffirmation of the continued support for and assistance to Timor-Leste by the United Nations and the international community.

We highly value the timing of the visit of the Security Council mission to the country. As rightly stated in the report, the mission took place as the country was confronting enormous challenges in trying to recover from the crisis of 2006 and following the first presidential and parliamentary elections, held in April, May and June 2007. The mission also took place well ahead of the Council's discussion on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT), which will expire on 26 February 2008.

The elections were clearly a step forward for Timor-Leste in the consolidation of democracy, for which the people and the leaders of Timor-Leste deserve our deep appreciation. We share the mission's observation that while progress has been made in democratization, the root causes of last year's crisis and its consequences are yet to be fully addressed.

A number of underlying political tensions from the time of the crisis and the recent elections remain in many sections of society. Central to the crisis were issues of divisions in the leadership, weak institutions, especially the security forces, and lack of solid structures of Government. The problems stemming from the crisis, such as the case of fugitive Major Reinado, the petitioners and internally displaced persons (IDPs), continue to pose serious challenges to the peace and stability of the country.

On another note, we share the mission's observation that poverty continues to be a major cause of instability in Timor-Leste, where about 40 per cent of the population still lives under the national poverty line. We note with interest that youth employment has been identified as a priority area by the Government in the international compact for Timor-Leste. It is our belief that there is a compelling need to integrate development-related aspects with responses to the security situation.

We have taken note that the Security Council delegation held productive discussions and exchanges of view with various interlocutors of Timor-Leste. The delegation made effective use of these meetings to explore ways and means to assist the country in developing its capacities, in particular in the fields of democratic governance and security, built on the gains achieved thus far.

In this regard, we commend the determination of the people and the Government of Timor-Leste, under the leadership of President Ramos-Horta and Prime Minister Gusmão, to restore stability and normalcy in the country, while reaffirming their commitment to democracy.

In the light of the enormous challenges faced by the country, there is no doubt that continued support and assistance from the international community to this young country is needed. Strengthening State institutions, security sector reform and economic development should remain at the core of the assistance.

It is our view that UNMIT should continue to exercise its good offices role to contribute in resolving the divergences among the political leadership which continue to exist. This role is especially pertinent at a time when national consensus is required to address the serious challenges confronting the country, such as the urgent need for national reconciliation, security sector reform, restoring stability,

addressing IDP issues, strengthening democratic institutions and improving governance.

It is also our view that UNMIT should encourage the Government and the people of Timor-Leste to take ownership and leadership of the country's development, including in the implementation of assistance programmes provided by the United Nations and other partners.

Finally, it is important for the Council to reaffirm its commitment to Timor-Leste in the promotion of long-term stability in the country and in the attainment of self-reliance.

The report of the Security Council mission to the country and the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of UNMIT's mandate will allow the Council to assess the extent of the United Nations support needed for Timor-Leste in the future.

Indonesia, on its part, remains committed to supporting Timor-Leste, in particular on a bilateral basis, so that the country can achieve sustainable peace and prosperity. Indonesia and Timor-Leste continue to enjoy excellent relations on the basis of forward-looking and reconciliatory principles as we continue to deepen and expand bilateral cooperation in various fields.

9. Small arms

**Statement at 5881st meeting, Wednesday, 30 April 2008, 10:00 a.m.
(Small arms)**

Let me thank the Director and Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs for her briefing. I would also like to thank the Secretary-General for his report on small arms. This report provides a clear picture of the multidimensional and multilevel nature of the challenge of small arms today. It clearly underlines the responsibilities accruing to various organs of the United Nations, including this Council, in addressing these challenges.

The International Committee of the Red Cross estimates that some 90 per cent of recent war casualties have been brought about by small arms. The threat posed by these weapons arises from the widely known fact that they tend to be relatively cheap, portable and easy to conceal. These weapons, therefore, are unfortunately in high demand and are easily accessible in civil wars, terrorism, organized crime and gang warfare. Much monumental human misery may be traced to them.

In a wider context, small arms are not only a security issue, they are also a development issue. Developing countries continue to be threatened by the destruction caused by these weapons and the hindrance such destruction has been to productive economic activities.

In our view, our strategies for dealing with small arms should include not only curbing illicit trade and brokering, but also dealing with existing stockpiles and surpluses of arms and controlling their spread. Such efforts have begun in some places, such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and have met with considerable success. Greater effort is needed, with cooperation among Governments and regional actors, to ensure that surplus or excessive

small arms are destroyed. Furthermore, global advocacy can contribute in raising public awareness of the importance of addressing those issues and in galvanizing support within countries and regions.

As a subscriber to the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, Indonesia finds it both necessary and beneficial to start to develop innovative and robust methods for systematically measuring the scope, scale and distribution of armed violence, as well as its impact, and to develop measurable reductions in armed violence. Indeed, concerted efforts should be pursued to develop economies, eliminate poverty and create sustainable development, particularly in the poor countries that are still fragile and susceptible to the emergence of or relapse into internal conflict.

My delegation is pleased to note the Council's renewed focus on the issue of small arms. The consideration of this issue in the Council, while extremely important on its own, should always be in synergy with that in the General Assembly, which has been seized of this issue. We believe that the Assembly has provided important norm-setting initiatives, including the 2001 United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects, as well as the development of instruments on international tracing and illicit brokering.

Pursuant to the Security Council request contained in its presidential statement of 29 June 2007 (*S/PRST/2007/24*), the Secretary-General has submitted some far-reaching recommendations, particularly with regard to data collection and development issues, that could be of benefit to this process. In this regard, the Security Council could, for its part, contribute in the ongoing international effort by closely considering those recommendations.

Indonesia believes that one of the most important elements in achieving success in our effort to address this highly complex problem is coherence and cooperation among all relevant bodies, such as Governments, international organizations, the World Bank, the donor community, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and civil society. Such a comprehensive approach will strengthen the full implementation of the Programme of Action.

With regard to the Programme of Action, we support the creation of a common framework for connecting needs with resources in order to enhance the capacity of States to implement the Programme. We find particularly useful the electronic database that the Secretariat is working on for coordinating small arms programming.

With a view to better addressing the challenges brought by small arms, Indonesia is in favour of an early multilateral negotiation to establish a legally binding instrument to curb the illicit transfer of small arms, including ammunition.

While supporting those practical measures, my delegation is also of the view that the legitimate defence and security needs of States should always be taken into account. The inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter, including the right of States to maintain their territorial integrity, should not fall victim to our effort to prevent small arms from falling into the wrong hands. The legitimate rights of sovereign States in acquiring and possessing small arms and Government-to-Government trade relations regarding these weapons should also be guaranteed.

Finally, Indonesia emphasizes that only by concerted action can we reach the goal of reducing the flow of these weapons for use by non-State actors in war, crime and violence throughout the world. Only by persistence, as well as through the visibility that this Council has, can we ensure a brighter future for societies on which small arms have inflicted destruction, or might yet invite damage.

10. Threats to international peace and security (caused by terrorist acts)

**Statement at 5615th meeting, Monday, 8 January 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Threats to international peace and security)**

At the outset, on behalf of my delegation, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. President, on your assumption of the presidency of the Council for this month. I also wish to thank you for your warm words of welcome to my delegation as a member of the Council. I would also like to join others in expressing gratitude to the delegation of Qatar for its commendable stewardship of the Council during its presidency last month.

My delegation would also like to welcome Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the new Secretary-General, with whom we look forward to working closely in enhancing the role of the United Nations in the promotion of peace. We wish to reaffirm our full support and cooperation to him.

As we journey into a new year, we are carrying with us both contentment and dissatisfaction. We take comfort in witnessing the cessation of some conflicts and the transformation of conflict-affected countries into ones that are steadily rebuilding and reconstructing. The role and contribution of the United Nations and the international community in that graduation are exceptional, and the Security Council has been determined and decisive in that regard.

The experience in all those conflicts reaffirms the critical importance of peacekeeping operations in the fulfilment of the Council's primary responsibility in saving humankind from the scourge of war. We believe that the continuing importance of peacekeeping missions should be duly recognized. We also see a need to continue to ensure strict observance of the fundamental principles of peacekeeping.

Peacekeeping alone, however, is not sufficient if our goal is to achieve sustainable peace. In my delegation's view, post-conflict peacebuilding is vital in helping war-torn societies make the transition to durable peace. In that regard, the role of the Peacebuilding Commission is of paramount importance. We look forward to its further constructive contribution to peace consolidation efforts.

The end of conflict in certain countries in Africa and other regions does not close the chapter on the book of war on that continent. On the contrary, we have witnessed the emergence of new complexities in current conflicts. For example, the presence of cross-border flows of combatants and civilians has impeded existing peace efforts and exacerbated humanitarian conditions in those regions.

In addressing conflicts, my delegation reaffirms the need for respect for the principles of the sovereign equality, national sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States, as well as the principles pertaining to refraining from the threat

or use of force. The principles of the peaceful settlement of disputes, inclusive dialogue, constructive collaboration and preventive diplomacy should be kept as a priority in addressing threats to international peace and security. Therefore, in the view of my delegation, sanctions should be used as a last resort – with a clear, transparent and measurable timetable – and should provide an escape route to allow for reinstating peaceful settlement procedures.

In the Middle East, peace remains far from a reality. The situation there will remain grim and protracted if the Israel-Palestine conflict is not resolved in a just and peaceful way. My delegation holds the view that the Israel-Palestine conflict is at the core of all problems in the region, and therefore believes that the Council should give high priority to resolving the conflict. Settling the Israel-Palestine conflict in a way acceptable to all parties will have a profound impact on the prospects for peace in the region.

Reports of the recent decision of the Israeli Government to approve the building of a new settlement in the occupied West Bank, which is in contradiction to its commitment under the Road Map, and the continuing incursions and raids by the Israeli Defense Force into several West Bank cities and towns in the last few days are of deep concern to my delegation. We think that those manoeuvres are indeed against the spirit of the agreement between the Israeli Prime Minister and the President of the Palestinian Authority. The Security Council should respond to that development, as is consistent with its mandate and responsibility.

As a victim of terrorist attacks, and bearing in mind the enduring presence of the terrorist threat, my delegation is convinced that the Council should remain vigilant and act in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law. Our cause and practice in combating terrorism should be based on respect for human rights and human dignity. Indonesia holds the view that the problem of terrorism is best addressed through a holistic approach.

My delegation also sees the urgent need for a dialogue to address the proliferation of nuclear weapons in Asia. Although the threat of nuclear weapons has subsided in other regions, a new nuclear theatre may be developing throughout West and East Asia. It is therefore important that we find a diplomatic solution to the nuclear issues of North Korea and Iran. We also attach great significance to the speedy establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, a region characterized by instability and tension.

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as the cornerstone of disarmament, should be strengthened. There should be a balanced undertaking among the three pillars of the Treaty. We believe that, in the end, the absolute guarantee for eliminating the fear caused by the possible use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is the total elimination of those weapons.

Democracy is a universal value, and history proves that it serves as a pivotal foundation for the creation of peaceful societies based on human dignity. In the United Nations forum, we are of the view that there are organs warranted primarily to address democracy and other related issues, including human rights. Their work is notable.

Considering the level of complexity and the magnitude of the challenges that humankind is dealing with in the present day,

partnership is the key word that guides us in responding to those challenges. My delegation concurs with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the significance of collective wisdom and collective efforts. We cannot go it alone. The Council cannot stand on its own in fulfilling its responsibility. Conceptually, peace may require a master architect, but in execution it needs the labour of many. While it is obvious that the Council has the primary responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security, we need to recognize the contribution of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to enhancing the role of the United Nations in the promotion of peace.

In the spirit of Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter, robust partnership with regional organizations should be strengthened. In spite of known limitations, the value of those evolving partnerships is clearly demonstrated in various regions where the Security Council has enlisted the support of regional organizations to help resolve some disputes.

In order to address future challenges, the Security Council reform process should be sustained. Aspects of the Council's membership, as well as its working methods, are in need of substantive revision. Both are equally important. We view the comprehensive reform of the Security Council as an integral feature of the overall reform process of the United Nations.

In conclusion, we support the draft presidential statement prepared by your delegation, Sir, and look forward to its adoption. I also wish to reiterate the commitment of my delegation to the successful work of the Council under your presidency.

Statement at 5855th meeting, Wednesday, 19 March 2008, 10:00 a.m.

(Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts)

I should like to begin by once again, and formally, congratulating Mr. Mike Smith on assuming the responsibilities of Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED). We thank him very much for submitting the revised organizational plan for CTED, as required by resolution 1787 (2007). The revised organizational plan offers the potential to strengthen the role of CTED in monitoring the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

My delegation specifically notes with appreciation the emphasis of CTED on the guiding principles of cooperation, transparency and even-handedness. Those guiding principles are essential, not only to uphold the credibility of the work of CTED, but also to ensure that its work will be guided by a clearer platform in achieving concrete, practical and measurable results within its mandate. In addition to the current key activities, Indonesia welcomes the recommendation that the CTED give greater priority to three additional activities.

With regard to its comprehensive strategy with donors, CTED should ensure that technical assistance aimed at increasing the national capabilities of Member States in the fight against terrorism be guided by their specific needs.

As for its communication strategy, my delegation hopes that it will serve as primary framework for CTED in conducting a tailored

dialogue among CTED, the Counter-Terrorism Committee and Member States.

On the cooperation between the Counter-Terrorism Committee and other counter-terrorism related subsidiary bodies, it is our view that CTED should develop new mechanisms and practices with a view to strengthening such cooperation.

As far as CTED visits are concerned, Indonesia supports the idea of developing a more flexible system in order to allow for tailored and focused visits to countries in all regions. In that regard, my delegation would also like to reiterate the need for CTED to employ a more balanced geographical approach in proposing States to be visited to the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

My delegation underscores the need for CTED, in undertaking its activities, to continue to respect international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law. We deem that it is important for CTED to continue to advise the Counter-Terrorism Committee on issues relating to laws in relation with the identification and implementation of effective measures to implement resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005).

Indonesia also wishes to stress the need for CTED to present an accurate picture in finalizing the global survey of the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). My delegation reiterates its view that CTED should ensure a consistent method of work and a balanced approach in preparing the global survey.

With regard to the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005), Indonesia encourages CTED to continue to provide necessary support for the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee in developing a more effective strategy to promote its dialogue with Member States and to assist their capacity-building to implement resolution 1624 (2005). In implementing the resolution, Indonesia continues its efforts to promote dialogue, tolerance and mutual understanding between faiths and civilizations. Indonesia is quite willing to share its experience in sponsoring a number of interfaith dialogues aimed at enhancing dialogue and broadening understanding among civilizations.

Indonesia maintains that the full implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005) constitutes only part of the comprehensive efforts at combating the threat of terror. Indonesia attaches great importance to the effective implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy as an integrated approach in addressing terrorism. Therefore, the active participation of CTED and support of all relevant activities under the Strategy is important. It is also important that CTED play a more active role in promoting regional cooperation on counter-terrorism.

Not least, the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005) should complement regional and national efforts on counter-terrorism. Such national and regional efforts have yielded concrete results. Indonesia has spearheaded cooperation in law enforcement, border control and the enactment of legislative frameworks for counter-terrorism. The Bali counter-terrorism process, for instance, has established strong bonds of collaboration among legal and law enforcement practitioners in the region. We have developed practical solutions to some of the challenges facing effective national and regional counter-terrorism efforts. The Jakarta Centre for Law

Enforcement Cooperation, which was referred to by Mr. Spatafora just now, has, for several years now, provided structured training for law enforcement officers of the region. It has also served as a venue for various specialized regional workshops, with an intensive focus on counter-terrorism. The contribution of Indonesia was also evident in the regional effort to bring about the conclusion of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Convention on Counter-Terrorism.

Finally, recognizing the work of the CTED, Indonesia supports the renewal of the mandate of CTED and the implementation of the recommendations contained in its revised organizational plan. We believe that it will enable CTED to promote global collective action, intensify regional efforts and strengthen national endeavours in countering terrorism.

**Statement at 6034th meeting, Tuesday, 9 December 2008, 3:00 p.m.
(Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts)**

I wish to thank the delegation of Croatia for convening this important and timely thematic debate. My delegation is honoured to see you, Sir, the President of Croatia, presiding over our meeting today. We are also very pleased to welcome the participation of the Secretary-General in this meeting.

Despite enhanced efforts by Governments the world over, the threat of terrorism continues. The latest heinous and cowardly attack in Mumbai, India, demonstrated that terrorist groups are not in a state of idleness. On the contrary, they continue to reinvent themselves with different means of committing atrocities. They seek to improve their methods of causing massive casualties with the aim of spreading terror in order to paralyse societies, destabilize political systems and make us succumb to the path of violence.

Our global effort is clearly facing more difficult and complex challenges. We need to be not only decisive in our policies, but also innovative and practical in our approach. The pace of our cooperation must match the terrorists' capacity to wreak havoc and destruction.

First and foremost, efforts to overcome terrorism must continue to be multifaceted in nature. The terrorist threat is not a war that can be won through the sheer application of force. Instead, there is a need for a comprehensive yet integrated approach, encompassing intelligence and law enforcement; the legislative framework; foreign policy, including public diplomacy; and also socio-economic policy. All those elements are complementary and mutually reinforcing. We should not favour one tool while neglecting others. It is important that the implementation of those tools be well calibrated and fine-tuned.

Secondly, no country can go it alone. Terrorists are not encumbered by national borders; hence the critical need for international cooperation. That includes the sharing of information, intelligence and best practices. Capacity-building, as a core element of the global counter-terrorism effort, needs to be sustained. The Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation, for example, has provided structured training for law enforcement officers in the Asia-Pacific region. The Bali Counter-Terrorism Process, too, has established strong bonds of collaboration among legal and law enforcement practitioners in the region.

Moreover, Indonesia has pursued a deliberate policy of building a multifaceted web of counter-terrorism cooperation: bilateral, subregional, regional and inter-regional.

In South-east Asia this common effort reached a high point with the signing of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Convention on Counter-Terrorism by the ASEAN leaders at the twelfth ASEAN Summit in Cebu, the Philippines, in January 2007. In essence, the Convention's aim is to deny terrorists space and a foothold to launch their attacks.

Of course, such building blocks of cooperation would not be complete without an overarching multilateral cooperation effort through the United Nations, including the Security Council and General Assembly. The need for a comprehensive convention on international terrorism should be evident. However, it is important that the global multilateral frameworks do not reinvent the wheel, but rather that they build on and promote synergy with existing national, bilateral and regional efforts.

Not least, Indonesia firmly believes in a democratic response. Our efforts must be viewed as legitimate. They must respect the integrity of international law, human rights and the Charter. In our view, undermining the principles of international law and human rights would not only be counterproductive, but would also erode the political legitimacy necessary to sustain global efforts to fight terrorism.

Effective efforts also require a perspective that is alert to the conditions associated with acts of terrorism. We need to be conscious of the need to address root causes, including prolonged unresolved conflicts. Indonesia wishes to reiterate that conflict prevention and peaceful settlement of disputes are essential premises in our common effort to eradicate terrorism. The Security Council, as mandated by the Charter, should devote its political energy to resolve those unresolved conflicts.

Effective efforts also require the use of soft-power. As a global community, we should work together to delegitimize terrorism by strengthening democratic values and promoting tolerance and pluralism. We need to take specific measures to steer people away from extremism. We need to promote and facilitate dialogue among community groups. We need to give voice to moderation.

Against this backdrop, let me end by emphasizing the imperative to reject the association of terrorism with particular nations, regions or religions. Dialogue among civilizations must be sustained to prevent the indiscriminate targeting of different religions and cultures as provided for in resolution 1624 (2005). Such dialogue can bridge diverse cultures, and facilitate understanding and cooperation across communities and religions. Only through such an avenue can we truly have a winning chance. The United Nations machinery, as part of the equation in the overall global struggle against terrorism, should play a leading role in this regard.

On a final note, the victims of terrorism must not be forgotten. We are grateful that the Secretary-General has made reference to this point in his earlier statement.

11. Women and peace and security

Statement at 5766th meeting, Tuesday, 23 October 2007, 10:00 a.m.
(Women and peace and security)

Let me first express my appreciation to the delegation of Ghana for convening this debate on women and peace and security. My delegation is certain that, under the able stewardship of Foreign Minister Akwesi Osei-Adjei, the Council will arrive at a successful outcome.

We have come some distance since the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), in 2000. The plight of women in armed conflict has been publicized, and new paths of leadership have been forged by women in the political environment, in peacekeeping and in peacebuilding. However, action on behalf of women is needed to close the gap between our political pledges and the current reality of empowering women in situations of armed conflict, in order to attain peace and security.

While war is a great equalizer in terms of suffering, the plight of women in conflict situations is compounded by the physical displacement experienced in war, the environmental hazards of war and sexual crimes such as rape, which are attendant to war. In many situations of armed conflict, women are already marginalized in the political process, and the conflict situation makes that reality even more apparent.

We need to ensure that fair treatment and protection of women are incorporated into all phases of peace processes. A negotiation that satisfies the needs of the parties requires that all relevant actors be involved, irrespective of their gender. Women are habitually underrepresented and bring additional interests and roles to bear, including as victims and witnesses, which need to be integrated into any peace process. Including women may have the added benefit of expanding the palette of options for successful negotiation by increasing the number of issues at stake and the subsequent bargaining leverage. A key issue is the identification and selection of women who can participate in peace negotiations. Like their male counterparts, female participants should be linked to the greater community and should have a representative stake in the outcome.

In addition to considering the phases of conflict and ceasefire agreements, we need to consider how the interests and needs of women can be addressed in the post-conflict peace process and in the work of the Peacebuilding Commission. Political leaders need to become sensitized to existing problems by listening directly to victims and witnesses and by giving them an opportunity to share their difficulties. We should also envisage how the United Nations system might be able to engage in remediation efforts in conjunction with relevant civil society organizations.

Grass-roots efforts can be employed. In many countries and communities, there are local conflict resolution procedures and women's peace initiatives that might be utilized in order to gain a peace that is most compatible with the situation in a given country. We should seek to utilize mechanisms that have worked for the community and have worked in the past in efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution. Resolution 1325 (2000) provides a strong impetus,

but it is really only a guideline for further strengthening our efforts to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. We need to consider homegrown initiatives that develop within national and regional contexts and to utilize local wisdom and capacity.

To encourage the development and dissemination of best practices, regional organizations can be involved in conducting workshops on issues relative to women in armed conflict, peace processes and peacebuilding. Moreover, we support the development of a database of good practices to further our efforts. This undertaking can be accelerated in the form of a comprehensive knowledge and information management system that can be instituted. Such a method could include a demographic database of shifting gender distribution and political involvement.

Concomitant with the role of national strategies and regional initiatives, civil society organizations can play an important role in helping to enable women in conflict environments. Their efforts have benefited women in the population and have contributed to peace. They can play an invaluable role in campaigns to raise awareness about women's issues, including the participation of women in peacekeeping.

Women represent over half the world's population today, and their presence in political processes in many parts of the world is growing. But they are underrepresented in the phases of conflict resolution and peace and security in places where conflict persists. Men still are dominant in these processes, with the result that women are often disenfranchised.

Resolution 1325 (2000) charts a course to improving the lot of women in armed conflict situations. It is only the beginning of a journey. It should not discourage continued thinking regarding new and creative ways to empower women and raise their voices to a higher plane. Lastly, we consider it pertinent that the Council should continue to cooperate more closely with other relevant United Nations organs in this endeavour.

**Statement at 6005th meeting, Wednesday, 29 October 2008, 10:15 a.m.
(Women and peace and security)**

Let me join other speakers in thanking Ms. Rachel Mayanja, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women; Mr. Alain Le Roy, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; Ms. Inés Alberdi, Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women; and Ms. Sarah Taylor, Coordinator of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security for their important statements. Of course, we also wish to thank you, Mr. President, for convening this very important debate on women and peace and security.

Armed conflict is the single most crucial factor exacerbating the security of women. In an age in which international cooperation is closely wedded to international humanitarian law, it is unacceptable that widespread grave violence against women in armed conflicts continues to be perpetrated. That must be put to an end. The international community has the obligation to protect and assist women in armed conflicts.

Not least, the international community has every interest in ensuring the full involvement of women in all stages of the peace process and peacebuilding: women as peacemakers and women as peacebuilders. In an era in which opportunities and knowledge are abundant, we find that women's potential contributions to conflict resolution processes have not been adequately harnessed. Women's perspectives and contributions have been grossly underutilized. That produces an enormous deficit in our common efforts.

To exclude or omit women's participation in the conflict resolution process undermines the representativity of the efforts of major stakeholders as well as the achievement of a sustainable peace based on the inclusion of all perspectives. Thus, increasing women's opportunities to participate in various stages of the peace and conflict resolution process demands our full support.

While providing such space for increased opportunities is desirable and important, it is also vital to provide beforehand an ample space in which women can make their own choices; a space in which women can feel secure and free from the harm of violence and reprisal; a space in which women can enjoy the freedom to make informed decisions for their own lives; a space for each and every woman in armed conflict situations, in which her basic need for personal safety is met. In other words, our approach should be to view women not only as a group, but also as individuals with their own aspirations.

A woman can make a fundamental difference in the peace process if she has the necessary negotiating tools at her disposal, the necessary space to participate and to use her tools, and the support of her own constituents. It is from that perspective that Indonesia views the strengthened participation of woman in peace processes. Capacity-building is the core component for ensuring that women's participation will yield the fruit of success.

There are at least three aspects of the strengthening of women's participation in the peace process. First, it is imperative to promote gender balance and equity in the process of assembling a negotiating team and to highlight the concerns of women in the negotiating agenda.

Secondly, while high-level negotiations are central and indeed critical, attention must be paid to the situation on the ground. Women's participation needs to be structured at the grass-roots level in order to promote sustainable peace. Women can advocate the pursuit of formal peace processes and cultivate community support for such efforts and their implementation.

Thirdly, women's participation can also be fostered by efforts that take the form of a campaign model based on democratic political campaigning and canvassing designed to increase participation by willing parties.

Before concluding my remarks, let me stress that enhancing women's participation in peace processes requires sustained and long-term efforts. Indeed, eight years after the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000), there is certainly no shortage of action plans. We believe that it is timely to proceed beyond plans to actual actions. Indonesia, for its part, will redouble its efforts at the national level and here at the United Nations in pursuit of that important objective.

In conclusion, let me express our support for the adoption of the draft presidential statement that is before the Council, which we are hopeful can contribute to the enhancement of women's participation in peace and security on its own merits.